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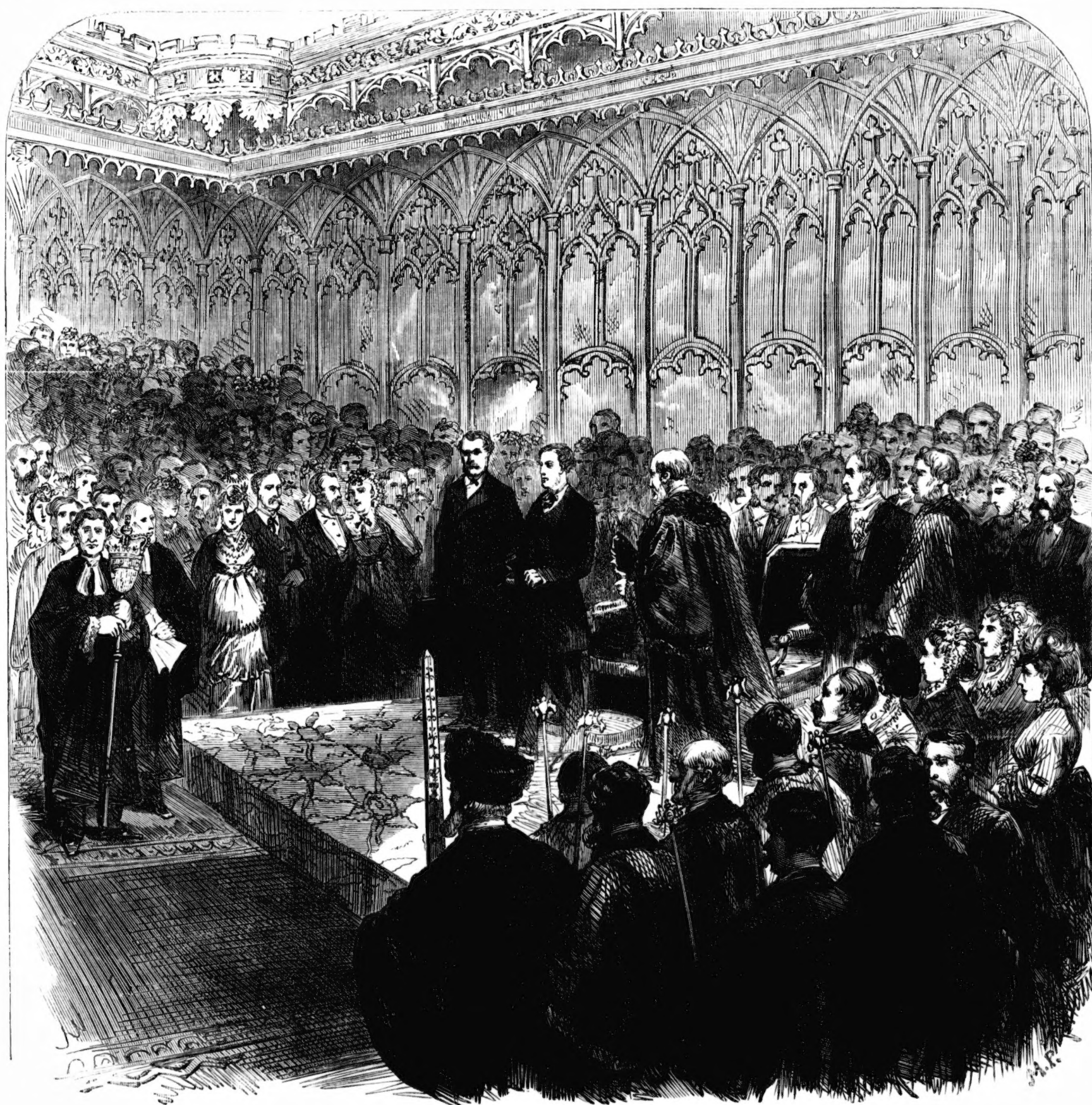
THE SITUATION IN FRANCE.

As we anticipated, M. Thiers's mission has failed; the negotiations for peace are broken off; and the war goes on. To what immediate end, it is not very difficult to foresee. The Germans will take Paris, either by fire or famine, or both. Humanly speaking, there can be little doubt of that. Girt about by a circle of iron, forbid to replenish her store of provisions, with about 2,000,000 mouths to feed, harassed by internal dissension, and with no probability of relief from without, the ultimate fate of the French capital

seems inevitable: it must succumb, even though neither ball nor shell from German guns should fall within the city. The King of Prussia, it is said, is reluctant to order the bombardment; that may or may not be so—we hope it is; but the stern logic of necessity may be too strong for even his Majesty's will; and, at all events, he can have no tenderness as regards the detached forts. There will be no scruple as to bombarding them; and by the time they are destroyed, the French garrisons driven out, and a German occupation effected, the stores of provisions in Paris will be exhausted,

and, with them, her effective means of resistance. She must then share the fate of Metz, the position of which, only on a larger scale, her own very much resembles.

There are but three influences that can hinder this result from occurring:—First, that the besieged shall be able to drive off the besiegers, of which there is no visible probability. Second, that Generals Famine and Disease shall be as active, and more destructive, among the troops of King William than among the garrison and inhabitants of Paris; and of that, with free communication with Germany, and



PRINCE ARTHUR INAUGURATING THE ALBERT MEMORIAL WINDOW, GUILDHALL.—(SEE PAGE 313)

nearly the whole of France open to them, there is still less probability, though, no doubt, the besieging troops will suffer severely; but, then, to warrant hope from that source, they must suffer very much more severely than their adversaries. Third, that an army or armies sufficiently strong to raise the siege can be organised in the provinces; but of that, probably, there is even less hope than of either of the two other influences. So far as appears, the provinces, however much may be talked about their efforts at Tours and in Paris, are little likely to make any such effort. The provinces have been too long and too entirely accustomed to rely upon Paris, for Paris to gain anything from the exertions of the provinces. Besides, it is tolerably certain that the provinces will have quite enough to do to take care of themselves. A full third of France is already overrun by the German armies; and nearly the whole of the troops from Metz, together with those recently engaged in besieging Strasbourg, Schelestadt, Verdun, and other places, are at liberty to pursue the investment of the remaining strong places in the north-east and north, and, which is probably of more serious import, to overrun the south and west, and to sweep those regions of supplies as other portions of the country have been swept. To oppose the hosts under the command of Prince Frederick Charles, and of Von Werder, Von der Tann, and Von Manteuffel, France really has no armies fit to take the field. We are told, it is true, of Armies of the Loire, of the North, of the West, and of the Centre; and each of these makes a fair-enough figure upon paper, but we fear it will be on paper mainly that they will figure. The Army of the Loire, under General Paladine d'Aurelles, is said to number 80,000 men; but, if so, why does it not at once "play the game" sketched out for it by a London journal the other day: "Crush Von der Tann with as little delay as possible, and then march on Troyes as rapidly as it can"? Probably the answer is, because the Army of the Loire is not equal to the effort—at present, and is still less likely to be so when Von der Tann is reinforced by that portion of Prince Frederick Charles's army now on its march to join him. As to the Army of the West, under Kératry, though it, too, bulks largely on paper, being reckoned at 90,000 men, it must be composed of merely raw levies, and, at all events, it still remains in camp somewhere in Brittany, if it really exists at all. The Army of the North, under General Bourbaki, is estimated at 40,000; but of how much value this estimate is, may be inferred from the fact that General Bourbaki, on being told lately to do something with the Army of the North, replied, "The Army of the North—where is it?" Then the Army of the Centre, said to be stationed at Mer, near Blois, and counted as 90,000 strong, has as yet given so little sign of activity as to leave its very existence matter of doubt. Finally, we hear of Armies of the Vosges and of Besançon (the latter so mythical that the name of its commander is unknown); but, even if these armies exist, and number the 100,000 and odd men they are credited with, it is clear they will have work enough cut out for them in their own districts, and will consequently be unable to go to the relief of Paris or of any other part or place of France.

For the present, then, the prospects of France are gloomy enough—indeed, about as dark as they well can be. She must count upon seeing her capital surrender to the enemy, and she must reckon on having the whole, or nearly the whole, of her fair provinces overrun, harried, and devastated to a greater or less degree. Apparently, she has no power to prevent all this being done. What, then, ought she to do? Submit to the logic of facts, and conclude peace on whatever terms her conqueror will grant? or continue the policy she has adopted, and fight on, against whatever odds, and under whatever disadvantages? It may seem a hard saying, and we know that it involves terrible sacrifices, but we cannot help thinking that the latter course would prove the best in the end. By submitting to the demands of Germany now, France might save her capital from the humiliation of a foreign occupation, and she would preserve intact the resources of her rich southern and western provinces. Material considerations, therefore, seem to counsel her to yield; but, then, she must secure these material advantages at the expense of consenting to the dismemberment of the country, and, consequently, by the sacrifice of the self-respect of her people. On the other hand, by continuing the struggle—even against hope of present success, and notwithstanding the fall of Paris, if Paris be destined to fall, as seems all but certain—Frenchmen, if they have left in them any basis of manliness, may secure many important moral advantages—advantages that must prove of infinite value when they come, as come they must, to the task of reconstructing the institutions of their country. In the first place, they will learn the art of conquering in the school of defeat, as they have done aforetime. In the second place, they may hope that fortune will not always be their foe, and that she will again smile upon their efforts—when they have merited her favour. In the third place, and, perhaps, more important than all else, under the correction of adversity they will learn both virtue and wisdom—the folly, conceit, and effeminacy that now characterise them, and have so largely contributed to their ruin, will be burnt out, and a new soul of hardy, truth-loving, wisely-judging (because reasoning-judging) manhood and moderation in ambition will take their place. Mars is a stern deity and a hard master; he exacts severe sacrifices from his votaries; but, if they firmly bear the ordeal he imposes, he always gives them strength, if he rubs off their polish. The French needed chastisement; they required purifying; they do so still; and continued warfare alone can purge them of their folly and their pride. For the sake, then, of the moral regeneration it will bring,

they will do well to continue the struggle. In the fourth place, the resources of Germany, though great, are not illimitable. The time may come when peace will be as necessary to the people of Germany as it is to those of France now; even German tenacity may become relaxed by over-tension, German ambition be satiated by continued victory, or German military virtue be destroyed by too much success; and with that time will come France's opportunity. In the fifth place, were the war to close now, France would have nought save humiliation to look back upon in connection with it; whereas, were she to gain some triumphs, even though they were not signal victories—and there is no reason why, in the course of time, she should not—then would she be in better heart for setting about the work of reorganisation that must needs devolve upon her, and for entering upon that new and better life which we hope she has yet in store. Finally, there is a probability that the contest might accomplish the destruction of that system of centralisation that has so long prevailed in France, and the obliteration of that habit of relying upon Government for everything that has been so long the bane of Frenchmen. Paris would be taught that she was no longer France; the provinces would learn, by the necessity of doing so, to depend upon themselves and not upon the capital for inspiration and guidance; the peasants, the artisans, all orders of the community, would become accustomed to rely upon their own efforts to secure prosperity, to repair disaster, and to secure happiness, instead of being, as they almost universally are, mere waiters upon Providence under the name of "Government" to do everything for them.

We do not disguise from ourselves that, ere those ends can be attained, a terrible ordeal must be passed through, grievous sufferings must be borne, and severe sacrifices must be made. But, surely, to achieve such a moral, social, and political regeneration as we have pictured, is worth any price short of national extinction; and therefore do we think that, if the French are equal to paying the price—to enduring the intervening evils—they do well to maintain the present seemingly hopeless struggle, for the sake of the ultimate and exceeding great reward they may reap from their efforts.

THE LATE SIR JAMES Y. SIMPSON.—At a meeting of a committee held in Edinburgh, on Monday—the Earl of Dalhousie presiding—it was stated that the form of the national memorial to the late Sir James Y. Simpson had been agreed upon, as follows:—"1st, a monument and statue in Edinburgh; 2nd, a marble bust in Westminster Abbey; 3rd, an hospital in Edinburgh for the diseases of women, constructed on those principles which Sir James so often and so clearly enforced; 4th, similar hospitals in London and Dublin, should sufficient funds be obtained." It was also stated that a sum of £1950 had already been subscribed.

LION-HUNTING IN SOUTH AFRICA.—Reports received from the Cape mention a serious accident which had befallen Captain Watson, second battalion 11th Regiment, while on a shooting expedition in South Africa. On the battalion being ordered home from the Cape, he obtained leave to proceed up country beyond Natal, and was joined at Cape Town by three friends from England, one an officer in the Guards. It appears that, while they were out together, a lion, which Captain Watson had twice wounded, turned and followed him. He sought refuge in a swamp, but was pursued and caught by the infuriated beast, who inflicted severe wounds about the head and shoulder. One of the party then came up and shot the lion. According to latest accounts, Captain Watson was progressing favourably.

DENSE FOG.—London and the districts for many miles round were enveloped, on Wednesday, in the blackest fog which has been experienced since the winter of 1868. Commencing shortly after daybreak, it gradually became thicker, till at eight o'clock it was hardly possible to discern objects a few yards off. Between nine and ten there were signs of its clearing off, but shortly afterwards it became still thicker, and changed from a white to the blackness of a November fog. At noon the streets were darker than at midnight. Of course all places of business were lighted, and in some places the lamps in the streets were lit. Traffic was carried on in the streets, but necessarily at a slow pace, and most of the cabs appeared with lamps—in some cases with as many as three. The river steam-boat traffic was entirely suspended, notice to that effect being posted at the various piers. Below London Bridge a large number of vessels on their way up to the docks had to remain at anchor till the fog cleared away, which it did shortly after two o'clock. Numerous accidents are reported to have occurred during the fog, some of them serious. Three cases of persons run over were attended to at the hospitals, one of which it is feared will have a fatal termination.

THE RUSSIAN ORDER OF ST. GEORGE.—It may be interesting to know something about this order, which has lately been distributed so liberally among the German Princes. The military order of St. George was founded in 1769 by Catherine II., and is only given for real, distinguished military service, in which respect it is like the order of Maria Theresa of Austria. It is, therefore, the only order in Russia which is always worn, and when one sees the small white cross and the bit of black and orange ribbon, one may be sure that its wearer has a history. Of the several grades, which are worn in different ways—on the breast, on the sword belt, around the neck—one is only given for the capture of a cannon, or for being the first to mount a breach; and to get the first the candidate must have defeated an army of at least 50,000 men. Last year there was not a single officer of the first grade, and only two of the second. Two or three of the Grand Dukes have the third and fourth. On the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of the order last year, the Emperor, in accordance with the rules of the order, put on the Grand Cross—up to this time he had worn only the third degree—and sent one to the King of Prussia for the battle of Sedan. The King had been previously decorated at Waterloo. This last spring the first-class was also bestowed on the Austrian Archduke Albert for the battle of Custoza. There is one lady among the foreign knights—the late Queen of Naples, decorated for her defence of Gaeta.

LORD MAYOR'S DAY.—The annual procession of the Lord Mayor and other City dignitaries from Guildhall to Westminster started, on Wednesday afternoon, in one of the densest fogs experienced for some time. The street lamps along the route (including those of the Thames Embankment) were lighted, but they only served to make the darkness visible; and the vast crowds which assembled could only hope to obtain a dim and misty vision of the gilded carriages and gorgeous liveries which mark this display of civic splendour. Fortunately, however, just after the Lord Mayor reached the Embankment the fog suddenly abated, and before the return of the procession it had entirely disappeared. The Recorder presented the past and present Lord Mayors to the Lord Chief Baron, who highly complimented them; and the usual legal business which on these occasions takes the Lord Mayor to Westminster was transacted. In the evening the Lord Mayor gave a sumptuous banquet at the Guildhall. The principal speeches were delivered by the Premier, the Home Secretary, the Lord Chancellor, and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. The chief feature of the speaking was the vindication of our attitude with respect to the war. The complaints of our neutrality were admirably dealt with, by the Lord Chancellor first, and then by the Prime Minister, while Lord Granville historically vindicated our efforts after peace. Mr. Gladstone, indeed, put the question of our neutrality with all his force when he said that not only was it impossible for us to give satisfaction to both sides, but that we had a better testimony to our success in that we had given an equality of dissatisfaction. It is, however, vince two excited belligerents that we have occupied a neutral position between them. As Lord Hatherley said, a person standing on a line half way between two distant persons seems to each one to be nearer to the other. His Lordship's elaborate and able vindication of our impartiality may be commended to the notice of the Germans when they are able to attend to it. At present such a vindication serves only to reassure ourselves amid what Mr. Gladstone fitly called the cruel reproaches which have been cast upon us. That those reproaches are altogether undeserved is clear, and Englishmen all believe with the Lord Chancellor that, when the excitement of the war is over, it will be acknowledged by both sides that we have behaved with the strictest impartiality.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

After the émeute at the Hôtel de Ville, Paris, the Government took a vote on the following question:—"Does the population of Paris maintain ('Yes' or 'No') the powers of the Government of the National Defence?" The total result of the plébiscite was 557,976 Ayes; 62,638 Noes.

Elections of mayors for the several districts of the capital took place on the 5th inst. The greater number chosen belong to the Republican party, including MM. Salingy, Martin-Carnot, Corbon, Arnaud, and Vantrain. Some partisans of the Commune were also chosen, such as MM. Tirdid and Bonvalet.

The Government of the National Defence has suppressed the Imperial Guard, and placed the officers and soldiers of the ex-Guard on the same pay as the Line on active service. The Government has also decreed that for the future the decoration of the Legion of Honour shall be exclusively reserved as a reward for military services and for acts of bravery and self-devotion accomplished in the enemy's presence.

The troops in Paris have been formed into three armies, one of which consists of the Sedentary National Guard.

A decree of the Tours Government, dated the 4th inst., has been issued ordering that all corps of freeshooters or volunteers shall be attached by the Minister of War to an army corps in the field or to a territorial military division. An official decree of the 3rd inst. requires each department of France to furnish, at its own expense, within two months, one battery of artillery for every 100,000 of its population. The batteries are to be completely equipped with men and material, the first battery to be ready within one month. The Government has ordered the mobilisation of all able-bodied men between the ages of twenty and forty, including even those who are married or widowers with children.

The Government has ordered the Prefects to arrest Marshal Bazaine or any of his staff, if found in France, and to send them to Tours.

General de Barral, who distinguished himself in Strasbourg, has been thrown into prison by the populace of Grenoble simply because he is a General of the Empire.

On the 3rd M. Esquiros issued an address to the inhabitants of Marseilles, announcing that he had irrevocably given in his resignation. He entreats them not to allow his name to become a pretext for internal conflict, and will not permit it to be associated with fratricidal struggles. The address concludes by appealing to all parties to unite against the invader. The Mayor issued a proclamation on the 4th annulling the convocation of the electors for the nomination of an Administrator of the Department, as well as the election of a General to the command of the National Guards, which was ordered by the Revolutionary Commune in its proclamation of the 2nd inst.

At Perpignan there have been some frightful excesses. A letter of the 30th ult. says:—"Civil war has commenced here. Last night the Colonel commanding in the town was attacked by a factious band, and received four sabre-cuts on the head. He was carried to the hospital, and on its very threshold he was near being murdered, and was only saved by the exertions of a sergeant of infirmiers. At the same hour the chef d'escadron of the gendarmes was similarly assailed. To-day, in front of his house, M. de Bordes was stoned. I never saw anything so horrible. Another person, pursued by a raging crowd, was killed by blows of hatchets and hammers on the Place de la Laye. As I write the drums of the National Guard are beating to arms, and they are turning out to restore order. All the houses and shops are shutting up."

SPAIN.

The selection of the Duke d'Aosta as the future King of Spain was proposed by Marshal Prim in the sitting of the Cortes on the 4th inst. Senor Castelar delivered a vehement speech in condemnation of the domestic and foreign policy of the Government. The sitting of the Cortes was then suspended, and the voting upon the question of electing a King was fixed for the 16th inst.

The Government has decided on sending this winter 9000 fresh troops to Cuba, who will be shipped by the Lopez Steamer Company.

ITALY.

A Royal decree orders the dissolution of the Chamber. The electoral colleges are convoked for Nov. 20. The Senate and the Chamber of Deputies are to meet on Dec. 5.

The Minister of War is engaged in drawing up a scheme for the reorganisation of the Italian army with special reference to the reserves, and with the object of collecting them more quickly for service.

The College of Jesuits at Rome has been closed by the military authorities.

HOLLAND.

There is a Ministerial crisis in Holland. On Monday the Minister of Finance, M. van Bosse, stated, in the Upper Chamber, that the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and subsequently the Minister for the Colonies (on account of ill-health), the Minister of Justice, and the Minister of War having given in their resignation, the other Ministers had placed their portfolios also at the King's disposal, but they will continue to exercise their functions until the King has decided upon the course to be pursued.

SERVIA.

The Skupstchina has passed measures establishing Ministerial responsibility, revising the press regulations, creating the rank of General in the army, and reducing the telegraph rates for foreign messages. In reply to a question as to the alleged massing of Turkish troops on the frontier, the Minister for Foreign Affairs declared that there had never been fewer Turkish forces on the frontier than now. Should this state of things undergo any alteration the Ministry would do its duty.

THE UNITED STATES.

An announcement has been made from Washington that the mission to Great Britain has been offered to General Robert C. Schenck, who will probably accept the post.

In the elections which have just taken place the negroes voted in accordance with the provisions of the 15th amendment to the Constitution. Except at New Orleans, everything passed off quietly. In that city disturbances occurred, and two negroes were killed.

CHINA.

A telegram has been received at the Foreign Office from Mr. Wade, dated Peking, Oct. 26, stating that the Chinese Commissioner is about to start for France, and that there is no danger in the north of China.

INDIA.

The overland mail brings news from Bombay to the 15th and from Calcutta to the 12th of October. Lord Napier of Magdalen, the *Pioneer* says, is evidently determined to crush what seems to be the growing insubordination of the British army in India. Fifty per cent of the sentences of courts-martial are returned by his Lordship "for revision" and increase of punishment; he has ordered that all sentences of imprisonment shall be carried out in one of the prisons in India; and promises that before long sentences of penal servitude will also be worked out in that country. Those men, therefore, who commit themselves in the expectation of a passage to England, will be disappointed to find that they have only by so doing lengthened and aggravated the period of their exile. There is no other news of any general interest.

THE IRRITATION OF THE INHABITANTS OF STRASBOURG increases daily. German soldiers are continually found assassinated. The Badenese seem to excite the anger of the inhabitants most, and are oftenest attacked.

THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE.

THE negotiations for peace have failed, and M. Thiers has returned to Tours.

We have from Versailles an account, officially prepared, which represents the negotiations with M. Thiers about the armistice from the point of view that Count Bismarck would probably like to be taken by the rest of Europe. In five days' negotiations, we are told the French Plenipotentiary—if we can so call an eminent statesman who was abruptly disavowed after travelling about 10,000 miles in the interest of his country's salvation—was repeatedly offered an armistice on the distinct basis that the military status quo should be maintained; in other words, that Paris should remain strictly invested, except for the purpose of allowing the Deputies to the National Assembly to pass into or out of the city. The Paris Government, however, would have Paris provisioned during the armistice, and they would not offer any military equivalent for that advantage. The Germans considered the demand utterly unacceptable in the military point of view; and, as the Paris Government would not yield their claim, M. Thiers was on Sunday directed by the Provisional Government to break off the negotiations. It is further stated from Versailles that after the French Government had declared, through M. Thiers, that they were unable to accept the German offer of an armistice to last as long as they wished on the basis of a military status quo, Count Bismarck proposed that the elections should take place without an armistice. He was willing that the Paris and Tours Government should appoint, according as they might desire, a time for the elections, and announce when they should be held; and he promised to permit the elections to be held, even in the occupied portion of France, without an armistice being declared, and to respect the freedom of election. Upon this M. Thiers had a final consultation at the outposts with M. Favre and General Trochu, but returned to Versailles without being empowered to accept the German offer, and had, indeed, orders to break off the negotiations.

M. Jules Favre has addressed a circular to the French Ministers abroad, in which he affirms that Prussia, by causing the rejection of the armistice, has once more proved that she continues the war solely with a strictly personal object, without caring for the real interests of her subjects, and especially the interests of the Germans whom she drags along in her wake. M. Jules Favre says:—

"Prussia pretends to be forced to prosecute the war by our refusal to cede two provinces which we neither can nor will abandon. In reality, she seeks to destroy us to satisfy the ambition of the men by whom she is governed. The sacrifice of the French nation is useful to them for the preservation of their power, and they coldly profess to be astonished that we should refuse to become their accomplices by falling into the weakness which their diplomacy advises." M. Jules Favre exposes the conduct of Prussia, which, after the fall of the empire, refused to agree to a truce, and goes on to say:—"The Prussian armies have now been besieging Paris for fifty days, but the inhabitants show no signs of weakness. Some attempts at sedition which have been made have enabled the population of Paris to render legitimate, by an imposing vote, the Government of National Defence, which acquires thereby a consecration of its right in the eyes of Europe. The Government entered into negotiation for an armistice which should allow of the election of deputies throughout the Republican territory, even where invaded. The duration of the armistice was to be twenty-five days, with a proportional revictualing of the capital. Prussia did not dispute the two first conditions, making, however, some reservations with regard to the vote in Alsace and Lorraine, which we did not enter further into because her absolute refusal to admit the revictualing of Paris rendered all discussion useless." M. Jules Favre demonstrates that the revictualing of the capital was a necessary consequence of the suspension of hostilities; an armistice without that provision would have been a capitulation at a given moment without honour, without hope. "By refusing our demand to provision Paris, Prussia rejected the armistice. It is not only the French army but the French nation that she seeks to annihilate, when she proposes to reduce Paris to the horrors of a famine. Europe demanded that France should assemble deputies to deliberate upon the question of peace. Prussia refused this assembly by subjecting it to an iniquitous condition contrary to every right. With regard to the Prussian accusation that the French Government obliges Prussia to starve Paris, Europe will judge of the value of such imputations. They are the last feature of a policy which commenced by pledging the word of the Sovereign in favour of the French nation, and terminates by a diplomatic rejection of every combination which would allow France to express her wishes. We do not know what the neutral Powers will think of propositions set aside with such haughtiness. Perhaps they will perceive, at last, what will be reserved for them by Prussia, risen by victory into a position to accomplish her designs. As regards ourselves, we obey an imperious and simple duty, still maintaining that the proposal for an armistice is the only means of obtaining a solution by a National Assembly upon the tremendous questions which the crimes of the Imperial Government have permitted the enemy to place before us. Prussia, which perceives the odious character of her refusal, seeks to dissimulate it under a disguise which can deceive no one. To ask us for a month's consumption of our provisions is to ask of us our arms—arms which we resolutely hold in our hands and will not lay down without fighting. We have done everything that men of honour could do to stop this conflict; but the issue from it has been closed against us, and we can henceforth take counsel only of our courage, throwing back the responsibility upon those who systematically refuse all compromise. It is to their personal ambition that thousands of men may perhaps still be immolated; and when Europe, moved by the spectacle, wishes to arrest the combatants upon the frontier of the field of carnage, in order to summon together the representatives of the nation, to seek a basis for peace, they say, 'Yes, but on condition that the population of this city who suffer—these women, children, and old men—the innocent victims of the war—shall receive no succour; so that, the truce having expired, it may be impossible for their defenders to fight us without causing them to die of hunger.'"

"This is what the Prussian chiefs do not fear to reply to the propositions of four European Powers. We call right and justice to witness against them, and we are convinced that if their army and their nation were able to give a vote they would condemn this inhuman policy. Let it be well understood that up to the last moment the Government of National Defence, absorbed by the immense interests confided to it, will do everything in its power to render an honourable peace possible. The means of consulting France were refused to it, and it thereupon interrogated Paris. All Paris, in reply, rises to arms to show the country and the world what a great people can do when it defends its honour, its homes, and the independence of its country."

"FRASER'S MAGAZINE" ON STANDING ARMIES.—The demoralising effect (both on the nation and the soldiers) of standing armies is thus described in *Fraser's Magazine*:—"In London the soldier is not conspicuous, save in a few spots where barracks are situated. Here the taverns and low music-halls (if hells) are nightly full of redcoats, and coarse, drunken black-guardism overflows now and again to the open street in an avalanche of oaths, curses, and blows. Knightsbridge, in the heart of fashionable London, is one of these spots—plague spots; and one cannot help wondering how, night after night, so many soldiers have leave to stay out of barracks for the enjoyment of the amusements which they patronise."

"Soldiers have fame, and harlots infamy;
Birds of a feather, and the like they be;
Flying and flocking in polluted air,
Of men's low breath, which calls them foul and fair."

In short, the average British soldier, in London and everywhere else, is in time of peace a mere curse to the community. We cannot, by any test of the imagination, represent him as the ideal champion of justice and right."

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENCE AS TO PEACE.

ALTHOUGH the effort to secure peace initiated by her Majesty's Government has fallen through, the documents connected with its inauguration are historically interesting, as showing the motives which governed the attempt. We therefore print the diplomatic correspondence on the subject:—

EARL GRANVILLE TO LORD A. LOFTUS.

Foreign Office, Oct. 20.

My Lord,—It is needless to state how deeply her Majesty's Government have deplored the outbreak and continuance of the great war which is still raging between Germany and France. They did their utmost to prevent it, and, since the declaration of hostilities and their own Proclamation of Neutrality, they have used their influence to prevent its extension; for if any of those nations which have remained neutral had taken a part all Europe, it is probable, would have been gradually involved in the calamity, with doubtful advantage to either belligerent. Nothing would have given more satisfaction to her Majesty's Government than to contribute in any manner to an honourable and permanent peace. Offers of mediation or of good offices would not have been wanting if her Majesty's Government had at any time believed that such offers would have been acceptable to both the belligerents. They could not, however, shut their eyes to the fact that such a state of things had not arisen; and the course which they adopted themselves, and which they recommended to others, was to abstain from making unacceptable proposals, or giving ineffective advice, which could only weaken the chance of obtaining at some future time the object they had in view. They indeed recommended that Count Bismarck and M. Favre should personally communicate their respective views. Such a meeting did take place, but, unfortunately, with no immediate result, except to show how divergent were their opinions as to a possible basis of negotiation.

After uninterrupted and extraordinary successes on the part of Germany, what is the present phase of the war? The main body of the German army is engaged in the investment of the French capital, and the reduction by famine and by bombardment of the city of Paris appears to be among the measures which are under discussion at the German headquarters. Count Bernstorff has communicated to me some of the circulars which have been published by the North German Government on the war; and on the 11th inst. he gave me the circular, in which it is stated that the inevitable consequences of the prolongation of the struggle before Paris will be that hundreds of thousands will die of starvation. The communication of this opinion of the fearful results which may possibly, and even not improbably, arise from a long siege of Paris makes it a positive duty on the part of her Majesty's Government to leave nothing undone to avoid so great a calamity. It is also clear that the war has already exhibited, and if it is prolonged must increasingly present, features which concern not the two belligerents only, but Europe at large. Her Majesty's Government are confident that the explanation of their views will not be construed as an unfriendly act. It is dictated by a most sincere anxiety for the present and future welfare of two nations with whom this country has long been on most friendly terms.

I am aware of the strong arguments which may be used in favour of extreme measures against Paris. I am, however, desirous of inquiring whether there are not considerations which appear perhaps stronger to spectators than to those who are under the influence of extraordinary military success, accompanied by the consciousness of great efforts and vast sacrifices. It is undoubted that such an operation as the reduction of Paris by famine or bombardment, although without precedent as to its magnitude, is authorised by the practice of war; but it is equally certain that, involving, as stated by Count Bismarck, not only the ruin, but the death, with incidents of peculiar horror, of hundreds of thousands of non-combatants, everyone would admit it should not be resorted to until all possible alternatives have been exhausted. Presuming a successful issue to an attack on Paris at no distant time, it is not unreasonable to compare with its advantages the prospective disadvantages which may ensue; and the fact that some of these touch the feelings of mankind as much as their reason does not discourage her Majesty's Government from laying them before the King and his advisers. The bitter recollection of the past three months may be effaced by time and by a sense of the conduct and valour of the enemy in the field. There are degrees of exasperation, and the probability of a fresh and irreconcilable war must be greatly increased if a generation of Frenchmen behold the spectacle of the destruction of a capital, a spectacle associated with the deaths of large numbers of helpless and unarmed persons, and the destruction of treasures of art, sciences, and historical associations of inestimable value and incapable of being replaced. Frightful as such a catastrophe would be to France, and dangerous as I believe it would be to the chances of future peace to Europe, her Majesty's Government believe that to none would it be more painful than to Germany and its rulers.

The French Government, acting upon considerations which appear to them conclusive, have, since the meeting of Count Bismarck and M. Favre, declined to propose negotiations for peace. But her Majesty's Government have assumed the responsibility of urging the Provisional Government to agree to an armistice which might lead to the convocation of a Constituent Assembly and the re-establishment of peace. Her Majesty's Government have also not failed to represent to them the importance of making every concession compatible with their honour in the present circumstances of the war. Her Majesty's Government are not authorised to say so, but they cannot believe that such representations to the French Government will remain without effect. During this war two moral causes have added immensely the great material power of the Germans. They have been fighting to repel the threat of foreign invasion, and to assert the right of a great country to constitute itself in the way most conducive to the full development of its resources. The glory of these efforts will be increased if it can be truly said in history that the King of Prussia had exhausted every attempt for peace before the orders for the attack on Paris were given, and that the conditions of peace were just, moderate, and in accordance with true policy and the sentiments of the age.

Her Majesty's Government wish that it should be clearly understood, which their conduct has hitherto plainly shown, that they have no wish to offer superfluous or unacceptable advice to the belligerents. The suggestions which they have now made in a most friendly spirit arise from their attention having been formally drawn to consequences of so formidable a character as, in the judgment of Count Bismarck, are likely to arise from the prolonged investment of Paris. They cannot remain silent or leave anything untried which may have a tendency to avert such a fearful and unexampled catastrophe.

COUNT BISMARCK'S REPLY.

The following is the text of the reply of Count Bismarck to Lord Granville's despatch. It is addressed to Count Bernstorff, the Prussian Ambassador in London:—

Versailles, Oct. 28.

Lord Granville has kindly communicated to your Excellency the despatch which he addressed to Lord Augustus Loftus on the 20th inst. Your Excellency is therefore acquainted with the contents. I may at once assure you that Lord Granville's wish for a speedy termination of this destructive contest, and the non-application of the extreme measures, sanctioned by international usages, is the more fully appreciated by his Majesty the King as Germany, which, despite her victories, is obliged to make so many sacrifices in this war between two great nations, has a much more immediate interest in the restoration of peace than a neutral country, in the position of a humane, and, as we admit, nobly sympathetic, looker-on. For this reason his Majesty the King has been much pleased to learn, from Lord Granville's despatch, that her Britannic Majesty's Government shares our conviction that, as a necessary preliminary to successful negotiations, the French people should be permitted to elect a National Representative Assembly. From the moment of learning what had occurred in Paris on Sept. 4, we expressed the like conviction on every opportunity that offered. I may remind you that, in consequence of a suggestion of the English Cabinet, his Majesty the King authorised me, at Meaux, more than a month ago, to discuss with M. Jules Favre the possibility of the convocation of a Constituent Assembly. His Majesty, wishing to contribute to the creation of a legal Representative Assembly of France, in the negotiations at Ferrières offered an armistice on terms the moderation of which was generally acknowledged, and, moreover, conclusively proved by the fall of Toul and Strasbourg a few days after. It is well known that these terms were rejected, and in what manner. It is equally well known that the King was willing to permit the elections fixed for Oct. 2 by the Paris Government to be held in all parts of the country occupied by the German troops, and to give every facility for them, although they had been ordered by a Government not yet recognised by us. Our transactions with the French local and departmental authorities, of which those with the Maire of Versailles have been mentioned in the public press, prove the willingness of the German authorities to promote free and unrestrained elections in France; but the Paris Government had no intention to allow the nation to elect representatives. It first adjourned the elections fixed for the 2nd inst., and subsequently annulled the decree of the Tours Government appointing the 16th as the day of polling. The decree of annulment has already been published in the newspapers.

Its original, with the signatures of the members of the Government, has by an accident fallen into our hands. We have also obtained possession of a letter from M. Gambetta, of which, as it characteristically illustrates the tone prevailing in the Paris Government, I cannot refrain from sending your Excellency a copy. All these experiences did not prevent us from offering our co-operation in any future steps the Paris Government might be inclined to take with a view to enable the French people to elect deputies, in order to express its opinion on current events and participate in the responsibilities of the Government, arbitrarily usurped by private persons. The friendly mediation of some distinguished personages, citizens of a neutral State, who repaired to Paris for this purpose, afforded us an opportunity once more of offering the French rulers the means of pro-

ceeding with the elections, and thereby liberating France from the anarchy which renders negotiations for peace impossible. [We intimated our readiness to accord an armistice for the period requisite for the elections, at the same time declaring that we would either permit the deputies of the nation to enter Paris or the Paris deputies to repair to any other place, in case the Parliament were to assemble elsewhere. These proposals, which only on the 9th inst. were, with our consent, laid before the members of the Paris Government by neutrals, met with such a reception that the mediating personages declared that they must give up the hopes they had cherished. Immediately afterwards M. Gambetta left Paris by balloon, and his first exclamation on descending to terra firma, if we are to believe French sources of information, was a protest against the election of national representatives. Events prove that he succeeded in hindering the elections, and the endeavour in the opposite direction of M. Crémieux failed. It appears from this statement of facts that the expedient recommended by her Britannic Majesty's Government, as a means for the promotion of peace—namely, the arrangement of free elections to a Constituent Assembly—is not opposed by us, but by the Paris rulers; that we have been ready to co-operate for this purpose from the very first, and that our offers have been always rejected by the Government of the National Defence. We were, therefore, fully justified in declining, in our communication of the 11th inst., referred to by the English Minister, all responsibility for the deplorable consequences to which a resistance à l'entrance must expose the inhabitants of Paris. That this communication did not fall to produce an impression upon the English Cabinet is only what we expected. How very much we should deplore it, were the rulers of Paris to carry resistance to the utmost degree, we have proved by directing the attention of the world, and of the neutral Powers more particularly, to the consequences likely to result from it. We hoped the representations of the neutral Powers would make some impression on the rulers of Paris, who are sacrificing the life and property of the inhabitants to their own ambition. We looked the more confidently forward to such a result, as the Government of Paris and Tours have assumed the direction of the destinies of France on their own responsibility, and without any other title than that which arbitrary and violent usurpation, coupled with the continued refusal to listen to the voice of the nation, can give. We can only thank her Britannic Majesty's Government if it makes the attempt to caution the French Government against continuing in their wrong and dangerous path, and if it endeavours to render them accessible to considerations which are calculated to spare France the further progress of her social and political disorganisation, and to protect her brilliant capital from the devastations of a siege. We cannot, however, suppress the apprehension that, owing to the illusions in which the Paris rulers seem to indulge, the well-meaning intervention of the English Cabinet will be misinterpreted by them. They are likely to regard the humane sympathy which prompted that intervention as support rendered them by the neutral Powers, and to derive from it an encouragement which, perhaps, might bring on results very different from those contemplated by Lord Granville. That, after our experience of the French rulers, we cannot take the initiative to reopen negotiations Lord Granville's despatch seems to imply. In acquainting him with the whole contents of this communication, I request your Excellency to assure him that, actuated by a sincere wish for the restoration of peace, we shall willingly accept and examine any proposition that may be made to us by the French, with a view to commencing negotiations for peace.

"WORKING FOR THE KING OF PRUSSIA."—"Travailler pour le Roi de Prusse" is a French proverbial expression, signifying to work for nothing; but many of the French, exposed to requisitions and compulsory services of all kinds, are feeling the literal force of the adage. Count Pinto-Metkai, at a dinner in celebration of the fall of Metz, referred to the proverb in proposing the King's health. He stated that it originated in the reign of Frederick II., and was a contemptuous expression applied to the parasites who collected round the King, greedy for a golden rain, but professing to offer him purely disinterested homage. As they received more respect than money, to work for the King of Prussia became synonymous with unremunerated labour.

THE OLD CHARTERHOUSE.

Now that Charterhouse School is about to cease to be Charterhouse School, and to pass into the hands of the managers of Merchant Taylors' School, a new establishment being in course of erection elsewhere for the Charterhouse boys, some account of the old institution will be interesting. For this purpose, we cannot do better than copy an excellent article from the pen of Mr. Albert Hartshorne, which appeared some time ago in the *Architect*. Mr. Hartshorne says:—

In giving a slight account of the Charterhouse as one of our great public schools, it will be desirable to preface our remarks with a sketch of its previous foundation and existence as a monastery for monks of the Carthusian order. And, indeed, the past and present history of this celebrated spot are so closely interwoven that it is impossible to separate its interest as a monastic institution from the subsequent fame it has attained as a seat of learning. We shall therefore endeavour to show, in a few words, to what peculiar circumstances the Charterhouse owes its foundation; we shall trace the prosperity of the monastery for nearly three centuries, until the general dissolution under Henry VIII., and we shall witness the trials of the order in those troublous times; finally, we shall see how there arose, as it were, out of the ruins of a monkish establishment and through the wise munificence of a single individual, an institution almost unrivalled at the present day for refined learning and scholarship. A few general remarks upon the architecture and antiquities of this famous place will be sufficient, in the present pages, to show the great interest it must always have—as much for the general public as for those who have had the advantage of an education within its walls.

The Carthusian order was founded by St. Bruno towards the end of the eleventh century, and their first church and house were erected on a dreary waste near Grenoble, called Chartreuse. The severity of the discipline imposed upon the members has been assigned as a reason for the slow increase of the order, which in the height of its prosperity only numbered 172 houses. The earliest Carthusian establishment in this country was founded by Henry II., who erected a friary at Witham, in Somersetshire, of which Hugh, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln, was the first head. There still exists a small apsidal and vaulted church at this place, which appears to have formed part of the monastic buildings. Passing over the foundation of houses at Henton, in Wiltshire, by Ela, Countess of Salisbury, in 1243, and that at Bella Vale, in Nottinghamshire, by Nicholas Cantilupe, in 1343, we come in chronological order to the Charterhouse, as the fourth of the nine Carthusian establishments erected in England; others were founded, at a later date, at Kingston-on-Hull, Coventry, Eppeworth, Mount Grace, and Sheen.

In the year 1348 a terrible pestilence decimated England, and in London there were scarcely sufficient survivors left to bury the dead, while thousands were interred in common graves in the open fields. Ralph de Stratford, then Bishop of London, purchased and consecrated a piece of ground called "No Man's Land," and subsequently "Pardon Churchyard and Chapel," within the City walls; upon this he erected a chapel, where masses might be said for the repose of the souls of the dead. The plague still raging, Sir Walter de Manny added to Pardon Churchyard a piece of land called Spital Croft, and these, being united, were designated New Church Hawe.

In 1361 Michael de Northburgh, Stratford's successor, died, leaving £2000 for the founding and building a monastery of the Carthusian order, at Pardon Churchyard. Sir Walter de Manny obtained a charter of foundation for the convent, which was witnessed by John de Hastings, Humphrey de Bohun, Edward Mortimer, William de Montacute, and other men of note. He endowed the house with the land which had been previously consecrated as a burial-place, and the building was finished in 1370.

The house enjoyed unbroken prosperity from this period until the Dissolution, at which time it received many valuable benefactions and gifts, its members constantly maintaining the highest character for discipline, regularity, and holiness of life. But the Commissioners for the Dissolution visited the house on May 4, 1534, and the first step which led to the abolition of the order was the commitment to the Tower of the Prior and the Procurator for refusing to take the oaths of renunciation and supremacy. They were executed, with two others, at Tyburn, and their mangled bodies exposed on London Bridge and Charterhouse Gate. The Abbots of Westminster, Waltham, and St. Albans had now surrendered; and on May 10, 1537, the new Prior and nine monks were committed to prison for refusing to take the oaths, and this further hastened the

dissolution of the monastery. On June 10 the deed of surrender was drawn up, and Prior Trafford and his sixteen brethren resigned their offices. Of the ten monks who had been previously committed to Newgate, nine died in confinement; while the tenth, after languishing in prison upwards of four years, was executed in 1541.

The remnant of the order passed over to Bruges, where they remained till the accession of Mary. They were by her reinstated in the house at Sheen in 1553, but were again ejected by Elizabeth in 1559. The monks crossed the water a second time, and again settled in Belgium, where they enjoyed their privileges until the suppression of religious houses by the Emperor Joseph II., in 1783.

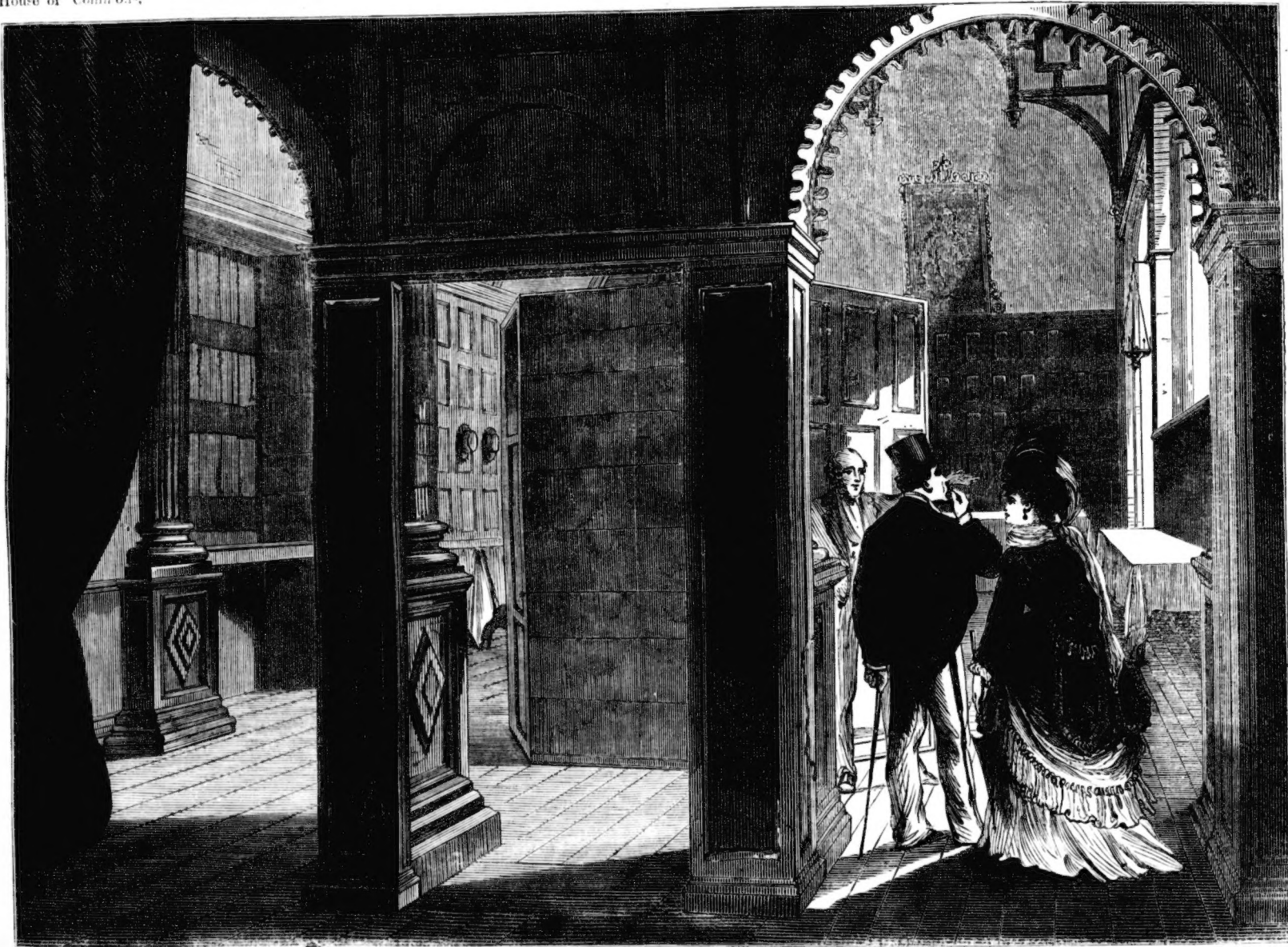
But to return to the Charterhouse. The site of the monastery had been granted, on the suppression by Henry VIII., to John Bridges and Thomas Hall as a reward for the safe keeping of the King's tents and pavilions there deposited. The grant was afterwards exchanged for a pension, and the King presented the estate to Sir Thomas Audley, Speaker of the House of Commons.



THE STAIRCASE.

from whom it passed to Sir Edward, afterwards Lord North of Kirtling. Queen Elizabeth paid him a visit of many days at the Charterhouse in 1558, and greatly crippled his resources. His son Roger, Lord North, sold the place to the Duke of Norfolk, who resided here till 1569; on his execution, in 1572, this and his other estates were escheated to the Crown; but on the death of Mary the forfeited property of the House of Norfolk was regranted to the family, and the Charterhouse was assigned to Lord Thomas Howard; he was afterwards created Earl of Suffolk by James I., and the Charterhouse, then known as Howard House, was sold by him to Thomas Sutton in 1609.

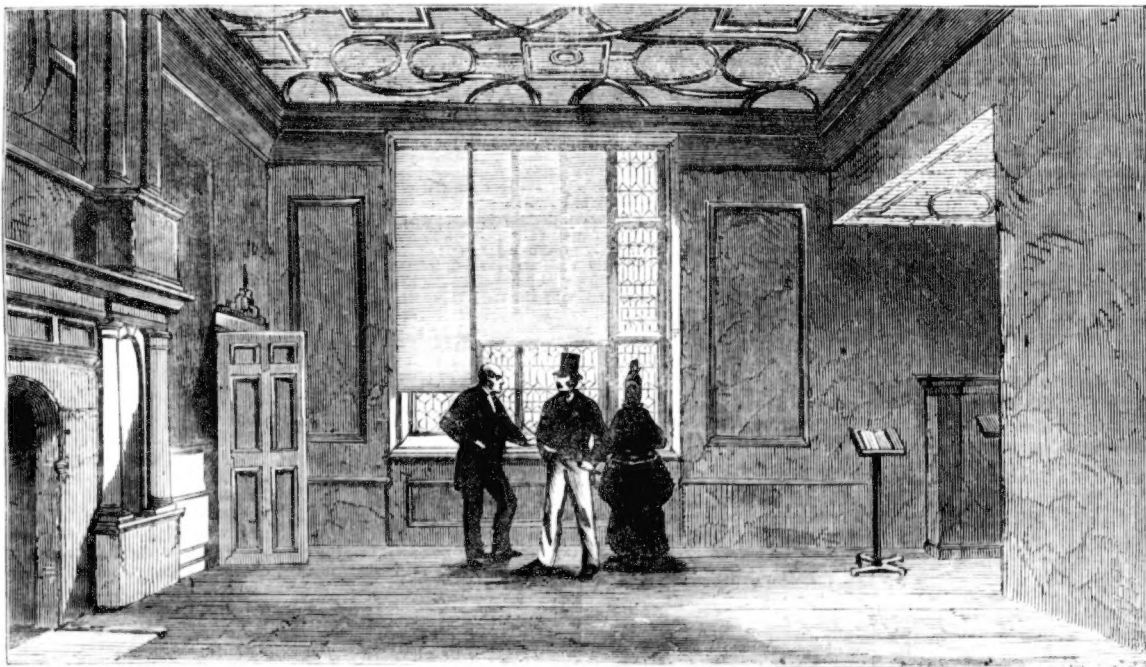
This gentleman was descended from an ancient Lincolnshire family. He received his education at Eton, and at St. John's College, Cambridge, and became for a short time a student of Lincoln's Inn. He appears to have devoted the early portion of his life to travel, and took part in the wars in Italy. On his return to England, in 1561, he was appointed Master of the Oratory at



THE PENSIONERS' HALL.

Berwick-on-Tweed, and subsequently obtained a lease of coal-mines near Newcastle, which became the source of his great wealth. After the death of his wife, in 1602, Mr. Sutton consulted with his friends and resolved upon his great benefaction—namely, the foundation of a hospital for the maintenance of aged men, and the establishment of a school for a certain number of youths. He purchased the Charterhouse for £13,000, petitioned Parliament, and obtained leave and license to carry out his plan. He had himself intended to preside as the first master of his charity, but death overtook him while residing at his house at Hackney, on Dec. 12, 1611.

Many difficulties were now raised respecting the fulfilment of Mr. Sutton's intentions, but they were finally settled, and the hospital came into working order at Michaelmas, 1615. In 1627, at a meeting of the governors, a set of regulations were drawn up which obtained the Royal signature; and the greater part of these remain in force at the present day.



THE GOVERNORS' HALL.

THE CHARTERHOUSE, CHARTERHOUSE-SQUARE.

The hospital and school as they now exist are administered by nineteen governors, a master of the hospital, a preacher, a physician, a registrar and receiver, a manciple, and an organist. The hospital comprises eighty poor brethren; there are forty-five scholars or "gown-boys," in the foundation, and a number of half and home boarders, a head master, an usher, and four under masters.

Among the most interesting architectural features of the place may be mentioned the original gateway of the monastery, dating from the early part of the sixteenth century. The chapel contains the founder's tomb—a stately erection of various marbles, with a recumbent effigy of Thomas Sutton. This is the work of Nicholas Stone, master mason to James I. and Charles I., for which he was paid £366 15s. The Great Hall is a noble panelled room, erected probably by Sir Edward North. It contains a grand Renaissance fireplace, ornamented with the Sutton arms; a music gallery of the same period; and a fine portrait of the founder in

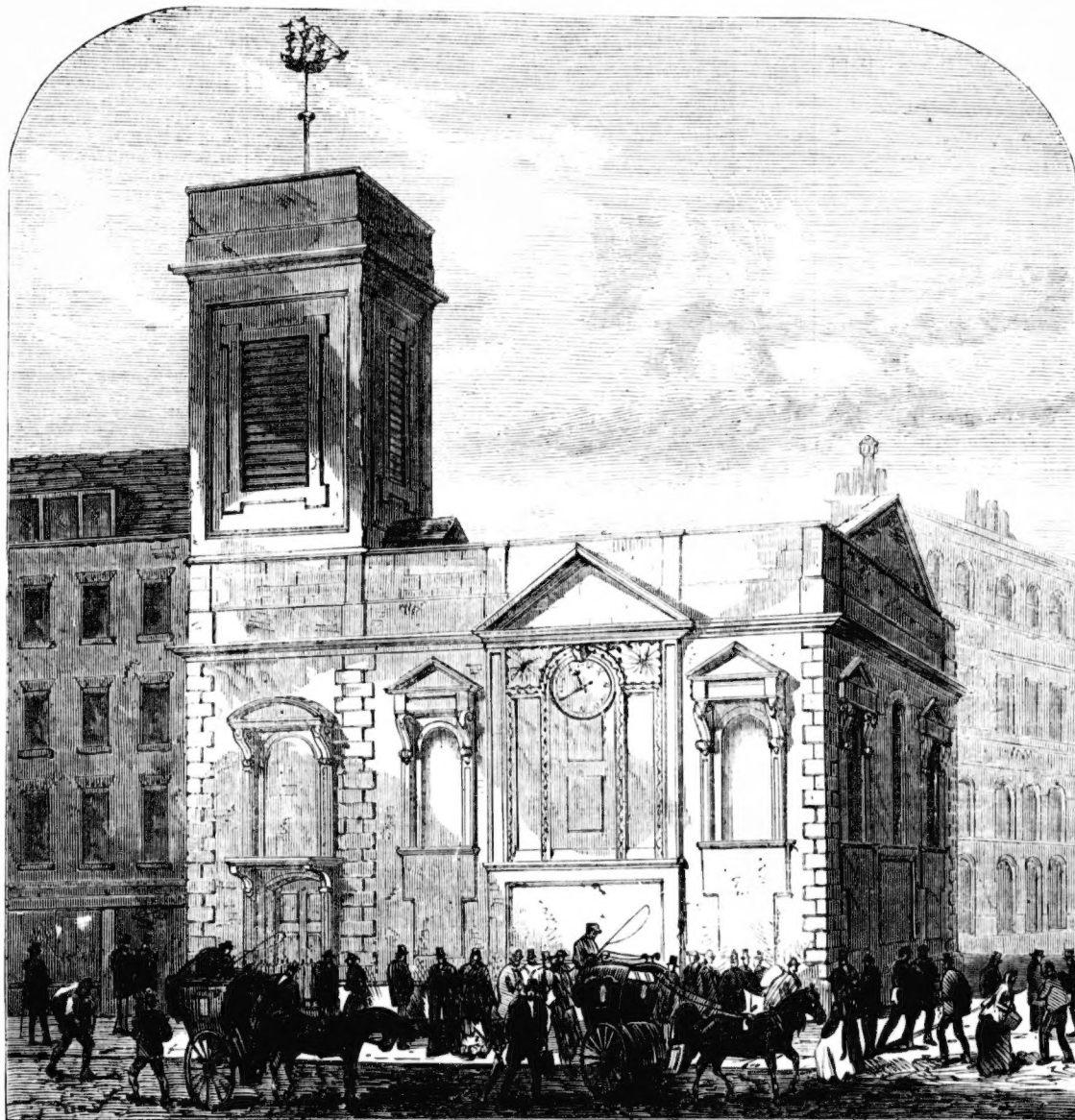
a black gown, and holding in his right hand a ground-plan of the Charterhouse. The great staircase is very characteristic of the period of Queen Elizabeth; and the tapestry, fireplace, and decorations in the Governor's room are well worthy of attention. It would not, indeed, be difficult—would our space allow it—to point out many other features of interest while we wander through these historic grounds and review the varied scenes that have been enacted within the walls, for the whole place is full of interest, and has that quiet charm about it which one hardly expects to find in the heart of London, and which leaves an impression upon the mind not easily effaced.

ST. MILDRED'S CHURCH, POULTRY.

WHENEVER the City authorities shall be able to make up their minds to complete the recent improvements effected by the opening of Queen Victoria-street by widening the main thoroughfare at the Poultry, and so abolishing that narrow throat in which vehicles and foot-passengers so constantly stick, it will be a great boon to belated wayfarers, who now have to elbow their course on the narrow pavement. The cost of removing so many valuable rentals, however, causes the civic judgment to pause; and we shall probably see no such bold enterprise until the Municipal Bill has for a time decided the fate of the present Corporation or its absorption in a general council. For some time past one building, at least, was marked for removal; and, although it would now seem that it is to remain—at all events, until some further demolitions are decided on—it can scarcely be regarded as an attractive object in any new plan in which it might be suffered to remain as one of the adaptations or concessions of the past to the present. The Church of St. Mildred, however, has its traditions. It is long since it has had a congregation; but this want it shares with a dozen other City churches, where discourses are delivered, every Sunday, to empty pews, and the accidental appearance of a stranger at the door during service-time flutters even the serene dignity of the beadle and the prim propriety of the pew-opener. The blank door of St. Mildred's, standing sheer to the pavement, is now barricaded with iron railings, and big posters disfigure it. The man whose predecessors from time almost immemorial has dealt in dolls' copper tea-kettles at his stall at the corner still holds possession. It is difficult to imagine, when standing before this plain and now almost insignificant edifice, that it is one of the churches rebuilt by Sir Christopher Wren after the Great Fire, and used both for the ward of Cheap

and the parish of St. Mary Colechurch. St. Mildred's, however, has a well-proportioned interior (though it will not compare favourably with the other church of the same name in Bread-street, which was also of Wren's rebuilding), and has a pulpit and sounding-board attributed to Grinling Gibbons, besides being the burial-place of Sir Nicholas Crispe, who "first settled the trade of gold from Guinea and then built the Castle of Cormantin." The old Church of St. Mildred, in the Poultry, could also boast of its remarkable tomb—that of the celebrated Thomas Tusser, author of "Five Hundred Points of Good Husbandry," who died in 1580. However, the tomb was burnt with the church in the Great Fire, and probably the very site of the building, past and present, will soon be matter of dispute.

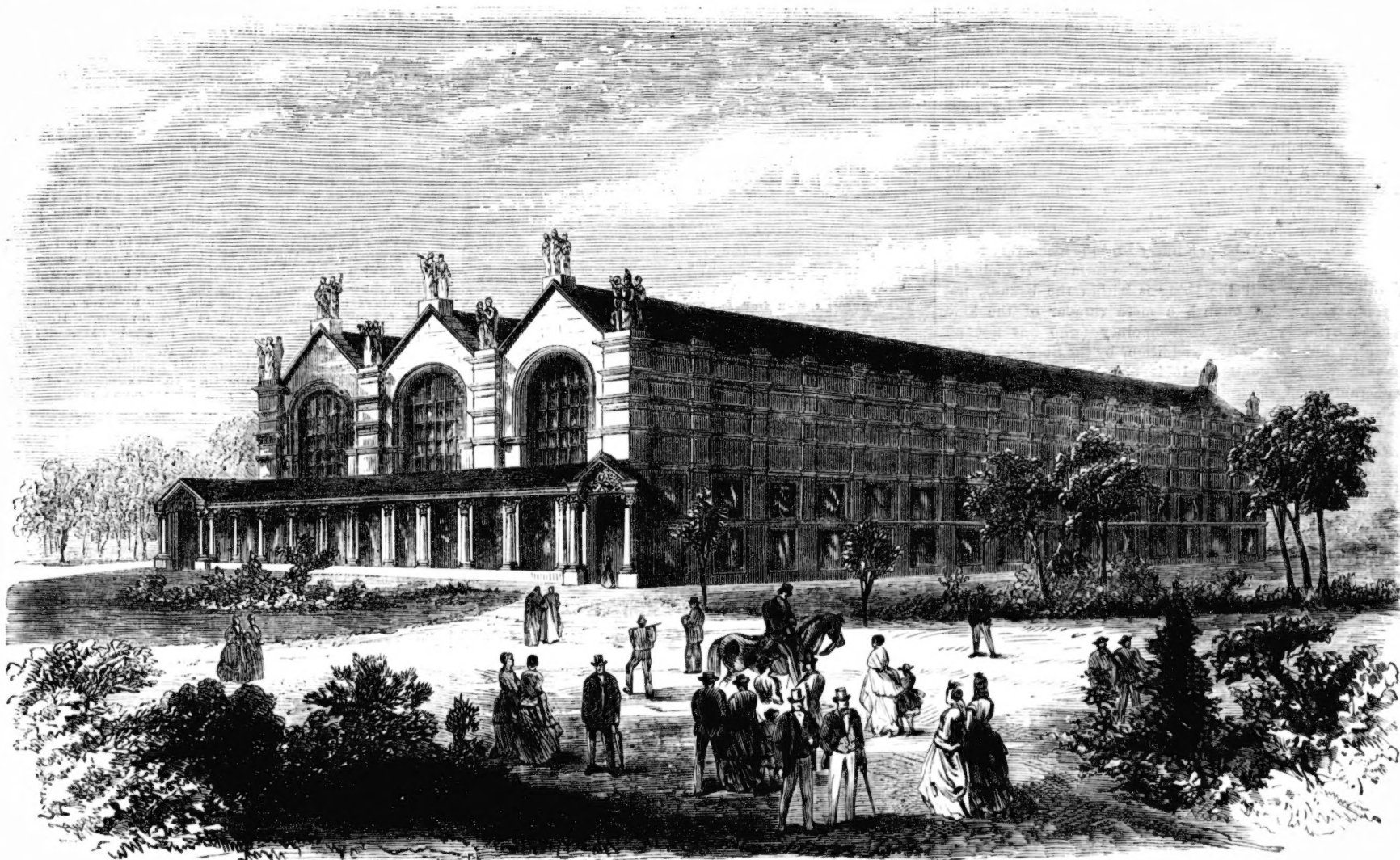
lected, but let us hope that the operation of the new Government schools will ere long enable the promoters of the East-End Museum to erase the explanations from their mural adornments. It is a pity that the building itself, standing as it does to represent a very worthy and admirable movement, and in a fine central situation, close to the avenue leading to the entrance of the People's Park, should not have been more architecturally attractive; but there is reason to hope that steps will be taken to secure for exhibition within its walls objects of universal interest and of great educational value, while it is intended to make arrangements for the delivery of instructive lectures on the various departments by well-known scientific professors and others competent to undertake that useful work.



ST. MILDRED'S CHURCH, POULTRY.

THE EAST-END MUSEUM, BETHNAL-GREEN.

To those who are acquainted with the neighbourhood known as Bethnal-green, the completion of the building for the proposed museum and collection of works of art, science, and industry will be an event of some importance, since Bethnal-green may be said fairly to represent that eastern end of the great metropolis of which we have all heard so much in the terrible records of poverty, sickness, foul dwellings, and the incapacity and obduracy of poor-law guardians and workhouse officials. About Bethnal-green, however, fair traditions still linger. Within living memory its outlying districts were gardens, where the French refugees and their descendants wrought at the loom, and silk-weaving was still a recognised industry. The weaver-colony has, however, been so seriously diminished of late years that only a few failing representatives of the delicate and artistic handicraft are now to be found devoted alone to the loom as a means of obtaining a bare livelihood. In the further part of the old "Green of Bednall"—in fact, on the square, inclosed spot near the Church of St. John, where sheep till lately fed—the spot known definitely as the Green, a great ugly building has been slowly reared. We regret to be obliged to call the gloomy pile ugly; but no other word will even so much as imply its extreme deformity, which is not even relieved by the extraordinary device of coarsely painting the outside with almost grotesquely primitive representations of various human pursuits, while beneath each picture it has been thought desirable, in order to guard against popular errors, to inscribe in words what the representation is intended to convey, in the manner of the legends under the coarse woodcuts of an old-fashioned primer or child's spelling-book. This may be desirable for a place where edu-



THE EAST-END MUSEUM, BETHNAL-GREEN.

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JOURNALISTS AND SINISTER RUMOURS.

The readers of this Journal will have gathered from its daily contemporaries the whole story of a gravely libellous paragraph which appeared first in a London evening paper, and then in the Sheffield paper edited by Mr. Leng, with an awkward addition. This paragraph seems to have got into Mr. Leng's paper while he was unwell, and, after it had once appeared, he was uncertain what was the best course to adopt, even after it had been contradicted in London. The uncertainty was not so unnatural as it may have looked to the learned Judges who tried the case. We do not justify Mr. Leng, who should at once have issued a denial of the rumour, accompanying the denial with an expression of regret; but we can think leniently of his default. Journalists, of all men, have good reason to know the exceeding shortness of the public memory; and whether it is or is not better to let a misstatement "die out," as Mr. Leng's counsel put it, is a doubt which might very well occur to an editor. However, he was clearly wrong in delaying his disavowal of the truth of the story, and it cannot be said that a fine of £50 is too heavy a penalty. Still, his law expenses must altogether have been so very heavy that anyone may well feel sorry for him, even while admiring the moderation and fairness of the Judges who decided upon the penalty to be inflicted.

But the case suggests anew a point that has been repeatedly raised in the ILLUSTRATED TIMES. "One by one," wrote Mr. Bright to a gentleman in the United States some time ago, "we Americanise our institutions." Now, it cannot be affirmed that the liberties taken by the press in commenting on the private lives of individuals are greater than they ever were—the facts are far otherwise; but there has been of late years an undoubted increase of the tendency to "mobilise" scandal of all kinds, and chiefly the worst. And newspapers have vied with each other in exhibiting this tendency. It is to be feared that this is one result of the very hollow fit of "virtue" which has latterly taken an intermittent hold of the public mind, or is presumed, for journalistic purposes, to have done so. The "newspaperial" method of working up, or stimulating, or curing this fit—take whichever view you please—is to write very moral leading articles occasionally, and to be in hot haste to publish the faintest rumour of anybody's having done anything immoral. So long as only real news are published, our contemporaries must "gang their gait;" they may be ever so wrong, but nobody can stop their mouths. The very "reason of being" of a newspaper is news; and what more can you say? But a sinister rumour is quite another matter, however plausibly supported. Let us suppose the rumour in this case had been true, it would still have been wrong to publish it until the facts had become public property by some formal action of one of the parties concerned. The records of legal proceedings are public property. Anybody who likes to pay a very small sum may go to Clifford's Inn, and, by searching certain books, find out who is suing whom, for example; and, in a similar way, when a cause is entered for trial in any law court, may, without offence, state the fact in a newspaper. To be in a hurry to do it looks very much like what the greatest of missionaries termed "rejoicing in iniquity;" but still the thing is within the bounds, not beyond them. To publish a mere rumour of the kind printed by our London contemporary (who has got off cheaply), and then, with an addition, by the Sheffield paper, is quite another matter. It is clearly an act of public immorality, and, though we may regret to see Mr. Leng hit so hard while greater sinners—men, too, who have done much less service—go scot-free of punishment for worse offences, we cannot be sorry to see the offence, for once, signalled in the eyes of all men. That persons of high rank are concerned is an accidental circumstance which we would willingly have dispensed with; and yet, to the honour of our country and our Judges, we may be glad to make the reflection that the punishment would perhaps have been made heavier if untitled private citizens had been the persons slandered.

PROFESSOR HUXLEY ON SCHOOL BOARDS.—Professor Huxley on Monday night distributed the Queen's prizes and pecuniary scholarships awarded to the students of the evening classes and pupils of the Islington School of Science and Art, which, since its establishment in 1862, has, besides several gold, silver, and bronze medals, carried off two £50 exhibitions, tenable for three years, and six £10 scholarships. Professor Huxley, speaking of the new London School Board, said that the duty of the ratepayers in connection with the board was, he held, not to put men upon it because they were members of this or that particular sect, or no sect, in order to give them the opportunity of fighting or worrying their brother members to the utmost possible extent over a point respecting which, after all, the Education Department retained the supreme control. He could conceive of nothing more lamentable than that the education of this metropolis, the population of which was greater than that of many an independent State, should be handed over to what ought to be a great educational parliament and that the forty or fifty persons who composed that educational parliament should be wasting their time in mere struggles for domination between different sects and denominations, forgetful that the people were "perishing for lack of knowledge." From what he saw going on, however, that was exactly what would happen if those who had clear ideas on the subject did not exert themselves to prevent all such kinds of faction fighting by sending to the board men who would do the work that had to be done, and not engage in quarrels about work that had not to be done.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE EMPRESS EUGENIE has returned to Chislehurst. On Sunday her Majesty, accompanied by the Prince Imperial, attended mass at the Roman Catholic church at that place.

PRINCE CHRISTIAN was on Monday installed High Steward of Windsor, and was presented with the freedom of the royal borough. This auspicious event was celebrated by a grand banquet in the evening.

LORD MAYOR BESLEY, on Tuesday, took leave of the officials at the Mansion House in a brief address, in which he acknowledged the great assistance they had rendered him during his year of office. His successor, Mr. Alderman Dakin, was afterwards sworn in at Guildhall with the usual formalities.

SIR JOHN BURGOYNE, although still confined to his room, has nearly recovered from his recent severe indisposition.

RAFAEL DE BENJUMEA, Esq., who for many years was attached to the Spanish Court as a painter of history, has arrived in London.

THE AMERICAN LEGATION has removed from Arlington-street, Piccadilly, to No. 5, Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W.

THE HONOUR OF KNIGHTHOOD has been conferred upon Mr. Edward Kenny, late President of the Privy Council in the Dominion of Canada.

BAHOO KESHU CHUNDER SEN has arrived in India.

A MEMBER OF THE LOCKHART FAMILY is preparing a supplementary volume to the "Life of Sir Walter Scott."

GREAT ACTIVITY prevails in Woolwich Arsenal with a view of perfecting the armament of the reserve forces before the spring of 1871.

AN INSURANCE COMPANY has been formed at Lille to insure property against the damage resulting from bombardment.

THE PRIZES offered for competition at the Smithfield Club Cattle Show this year amount to nearly £2500. The show is to be opened on Monday, Dec. 5.

MR. CHARLES CAVENDISH CLIFFORD, who represented the Isle of Wight in the Liberal interest from 1856 to 1865, has been adopted as a candidate by the Liberal committee at Newport.

MR. JOHN FORREST, a collector, was a few evenings ago attacked on his way home to Sankey, near Warrington, robbed of his purse, and so brutally treated that he has died from the injuries he received.

THE MANAGERS OF THE SOUTH LONDON TRAMWAYS announce a daily service of "workmen's carriages" between Brixton and the Westminster-road. The distance is three miles, and the fare is to be a penny for the single journey.

MESSRS. GAMBIE AND RUMBLE, the officers who were sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment for certain Admiralty frauds, have been liberated.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS have determined that, in view of all the circumstances, it was not now desirable that a permanent appointment to the chairmanship be made, and that the chairman, therefore, be elected only for one year. The election will take place on Friday, the 18th inst.

THE FIFTH OF NOVEMBER passed off quietly at Godalming, where a disturbance was apprehended. There was not the slightest attempt at riot, and the numerous residents sworn in as special constables formed a force sufficient to have quelled any disturbance. All the shops were closed at five o'clock in the afternoon, and many of the upper windows were strongly barricaded.

M. THIERS, a Berlin telegram states, has written to the Pope informing him that he has advocated his cause at all the Courts visited on his late diplomatic journey. All the Courts, M. Thiers says, were ready to consider his Holiness's case at the coming congress, and would grant him a position worthy of the Viceregent of Christ.

DR. JACOBY has, on being set free, received an "ovation" from the municipal council of Königsberg, of which he is a member. When returning thanks he observed:—"However divergent our political views may be, when the right and the liberty of a citizen are in question we must close our ranks and resist as one man." The electors of Berlin will again return Dr. Jacoby to Parliament.

THE PARISH OF ST. GEORGE has recently acquired a steam-roller of seventeen tons weight, to be used in crushing and hardening road metal. It was at work on Tuesday in Hanover-street, and the ease and rapidity with which it rendered the road smooth and ready for use gratified all lovers of the horse.

A NUMBER OF OLD IMPERIALISTS have settled for the present at Arcachon, near Bordeaux. Among them are M. de la Guéronnière, Haussmann, and De Parieu. M. de Forcade de la Roquette, who was there also, has, by order of the Prefect, left France, and is now at St. Sebastian, in Spain.

AT PARIS a ladder is always placed by the statue of Strasbourg, to enable passers-by to place immortelles on the top. A kind of camp religious service is frequently held at its foot, mass being said by a priest; and the Voltaireans who go by uncover and play the devout, as religion at times pleases them.

THE TOTAL RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER from April 1 to Nov. 5 were £36,395,623; or rather more than four millions sterling short of the revenue in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has amounted to £41,357,542; or £5,000,000 in excess of the receipts. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £1,273,627.

MEGY, who was tried and condemned, a few months since, to the galley, for killing a police officer who sought to arrest him on a charge of conspiring against the life of the Emperor, but who, upon the proclamation of the Republic, obtained his release from prison, has just been arrested in Paris for having struck his superior officer in the National Guard.

THE PRUSSIAN MEDICAL STAFF at Metz complain that, do what they will, they cannot break the French convalescents of their craving for horse-flesh. They will eat it, notwithstanding that they are receiving abundant rations of mutton. The doctors oppose their eating horseflesh because they think that an entire change of diet will operate as much as anything in effecting a cure.

A SERIOUS GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION has occurred in the house of a man named Cavill, at Bridgewater. Three lads, while "ramming" squibs, by some act of carelessness, caused a partly loaded one to ignite, and the sparks falling upon a heap of powder 6lb. in weight, an explosion took place, which blew off the roof and threw down the side walls of the back kitchen. Two of the lads were severely injured about the face and arms, and are in a precarious state.

A NEW STYLE OF JOURNAL has been set up in Paris since the siege. It has the form of an ordinary letter, and is called *Lettre Journal de Paris, Gazette des Absents*. The two first pages contain a summary of the news of the week; the third page is free to contain the substance of the letter; and the fourth bears the address of the person for whom it is destined, who receives a Parisian journal at the same time as a letter from his besieged relatives or friends.

THE PRUSSIAN WAR DEPARTMENT has issued orders that the French prisoners shall be furnished with winter clothing, of which an immense quantity was found in Strasbourg. The prisoners confined in the fortresses of Silesia have also been supplied with winter clothing. Prisoners, even private soldiers, are permitted to reside in private houses if their education and conduct be such as to justify such privilege.

THE CHARGE AGAINST MR. CREAMY WHELLAMS in connection with the collecting-boxes for the benefit of the sick and wounded was proceeded with at Guildhall on Monday, when the evidence for the prosecution having been brought to a conclusion, the defendant was committed for trial. Bail was fixed at two sureties in £100 each, and Whellams himself in £200. He was, however, conveyed to Newgate.

THE NEW BUILDINGS OF THE GLASGOW UNIVERSITY were formally opened on Monday by the Duke of Montrose, Chancellor of the University. It was stated that from subscriptions and from Government £254,000 had been obtained, and £117,000 had been received for the ground upon which the old college stood. Everything in connection with the new building was paid. There was still, however, required the sum of £350 for a hospital and £440 for a college hall. Of the £150,000 in public subscriptions Glasgow had given nearly all.

ALFRED GIBBINS, a policeman and signaller in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company, stationed at the Carmarthen Junction, was, on Saturday, summoned before the county magistrates for being drunk while on duty on Sept. 3 last. The matter was brought before the magistrates through a letter which appeared in the newspapers last month. It their duty to protect the lives of her Majesty's subjects. They were of opinion that the defendant was not strictly sober on the night in question, and they inflicted a penalty of £5, or two months' imprisonment.

A CASE came before the Court of Exchequer, last week, in which the question raised was whether an architect was entitled to retain possession of the plans he prepares for a building as against his employers. The facts before him, Mr. Baron Bramwell expressed his opinion that, if an architect be employed to make plans of a building, and be paid, it seemed preposterous, almost childish, to say that he should retain them.

BIRTHDAY OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, having been born on Nov. 9, 1841, completed his twenty-ninth year on Wednesday. The anniversary was duly celebrated in the metropolis, at Windsor, and elsewhere. West-End illuminations, no doubt owing to the numerous than usual, and wanting the combined effect of devices, were less brilliant. In the Royal borough there was an abundant show of flags.

THE LOUNGER.

THERE is an article in the *Edinburgh Review* which men will confidently assert was written by Mr. Gladstone. If this be so, I am sorry for it; because there are passages in that article which I could wish had not the sanction of his high name and position, and which may prove mischievous. This passage, for example, which contains a sneer at the piety of the King of Prussia:—"We will not inquire how far the phlegmatic German will, as such, be a safer depository than the mercenary Frenchman of a vast military power and of an acknowledged primacy in Europe wrung from the grasp of a rival. Between the piety of the King of Prussia—which, we believe, never failed him during the Danish transactions—and the policy of the Chancellor of the Confederation (Bismarck), which, whatever it might have been, has not been Pharisical, we are sore put to it to decide whether, in the administration of its great prerogative, Germany will be worthy of the confidence of Europe. We may hope, but cannot affirm." The italics are, of course, mine; I have used them to mark the sneer; and I say again, that if the Prime Minister wrote this passage, I am sorry for it, because, apart from the mischief it may produce, it is ungenerous and unworthy of the writer. And now, why, let me ask, should the pious expressions of the King be insincere or Pharisical? The argument is, that piety was out of place in that questionable Danish transaction. But the King may have thought, and probably did think, that he was quite right. Many people here thought so. The truth is that such expressions, which were quite usual here some years ago in common conversation, and even in Royal speeches, despatches, proclamations, &c., are now rather out of date. Indeed, not long ago we as a nation did something very like what the King of Prussia has done. During the Crimean War we were all exhorted, twice, to go to church to pray or to thank God for victory. I remember that the House of Commons went, with the robed Speaker at its head, preceded by the mace, to ask God to give us victory over our enemies; and again to render Him thanks that he had given us victory. And I recollect that Mr. Gladstone was there, one of the devoutest of the devout. Further, I remember that we had a brain prayer drawn up by the Archbishop of Canterbury for the occasion. Well, in thus returning thanks we did exactly what the King of Prussia has done. Nay, I am pretty sure that our own commanders have been generally in the habit of writing in despatches announcing victory, "The Almighty has blessed your Majesty's arms;" or, "has given us a great victory." But it may be urged that the wars were in such cases just and necessary wars. Were they? That, I think, is very questionable; and I should say, now we know all about the Crimean War, that this war was not a bit more just and necessary than the Danish War. On the whole, I see nothing in these pious phrases to be sneered at; and I am sorry that our excellent Premier has sneered at them, if, indeed, he wrote that article, which I am half inclined to doubt. Here is a passage, the italicised portion of which seems to make the Premier's authorship very questionable:—"The silence of a Government need not be copied by those who, not invested with authority, aim at assisting the public mind and conscience by discussion. We therefore need feel no scruple in saying that it is difficult to accept the present reported position either of the one party or the other."

We are just going to begin to educate the people. Shame upon us that we did not begin this work long ago. And now what sort of education shall they have? Upon this subject there has been, and will be, much bewildering talk. But, in all past talk about educating the children, I have not heard a word in favour of educating the bodies of said children. What shall we pump into their minds has ever been the sole question: as if the mind were a separate entity, entirely unconnected with the body. And yet there is not a man of us who has mind enough to keep his body from putrefying, who does not know—even though he may know no more upon the subject—that mind and body are united, that you cannot fatigue the mind without wearying the body, and that you cannot overwork the body without in a measure depressing the mind. Moreover, one would hope that there are but few who are ignorant that it is possible to educate or train the body, and, most especially, the body of a young, growing child. How is it, then, that our educational philosophers say so little about bodily, or, as science calls it, physical education? I hardly know. But, after long pondering this matter, and certain facts which have come under my notice, I have almost come to the conclusion that many, if not most, of our schoolmasters, are in this respect simply fools. This seems a hard word; but, if you were to see a man forcing by hydraulic pressure water into a vessel when the bulging sides proved that the vessel must soon be burst, would not you call him a fool? Well, this is what the schoolmaster of the present day is certainly doing. Three cases of this kind have come under my observation quite lately. I will give you one of the three, which I may say were all precisely alike. A. B. is a strong healthy boy, of large mental capacity—i.e., a mind which can take in a good deal of knowledge. This his master discovered, and into that boy's mind he pumped most unmercifully. In and out of school that poor boy was at his lessons nine or ten hours a day. Of course, his health gave way—every now and then dizziness in the head, accompanied by sickness (the well-known symptoms of an overworked brain), came on. The father remonstrated with the master, but he was impenetrable—"It was the rule of the school," &c.; and so the father at last had to take the boy away from the school. By-the-way, this was a very notable school. Now, I ask my readers whether the epithet fool is not applicable to this master and the like of him, numbering, I am quite sure, thousands? I say emphatically it is. But if this short word should be thought offensive, let us say the same thing periphrastically, as members of Parliament do when the Speaker calls them to order for using words too short and forcible. He is, then, we will say, a man who knows what he wants to do, but does not know how to do it. If he were to give his boys only six or seven hours daily mental work, and were to devote the rest of the available time to the education of the body, his teaching would be more successful. Some masters are like a Chancellor of the Exchequer now dead, who, on finding that a certain tax which he had increased had brought less to the revenue than it used to do before, sent for the Permanent Secretary, and thus addressed him:—"How is this, Sir? We raised the tax, and have got less money. There must be some serious mistake in your accounts, Sir." The Permanent Secretary explained that, in consequence of the increase of the duty, the consumption had fallen off. But I am told that this Chancellor of the Exchequer never could be made to understand it. "A higher tax ought surely to produce more money than a low one." This was his fixed inexpugnable idea, as it is the fixed idea of these foolish masters that the more you work a schoolboy's mind the cleverer fellow you will make him. Some wise man says:—"The best-educated man is not he that knows most but he that can do most." And I am told that most of the men who leave the Universities covered with honours do afterwards very little in the world; and I suppose that this is true, for one hears but little of them.

Let me see. I ought to have a clever pamphlet upon this subject of physical education. Yes; here it is, bound up, and not sent to the buttermilk. It is by Matthias Roth, M.D., a German, by-the-way, I believe. It was published last year, and is dedicated to Mr. Forster, the Vice-President of the Council. I wonder whether he read it. I fear he did not, and no wonder if he did not, for I should say that last Session, at the Privy Council Office, it rained pamphlets; at all events he made no sign. "The aim of the pamphlet," Dr. Roth tells us, is this, "to call public attention to the important subject of rational physical education, including the elements of sanitary knowledge, and to induce the Council of Education to rule that a school should (shall, Doctor, is the better word) not be considered efficient (that is, not conducted so as to attain the end in view) unless physical education forms part of the regular and daily instruction; and that no Government aid should (shall) be given to any school unless the inspector reports

sufficient progress in the branch." I can say little more about the pamphlet than this—it is to my mind so good that if I were rich I would take care that Mr. Forster should have another copy, and that a copy should be sent to every member of Parliament and to every member of every school board in the United Kingdom. Here, though, are a few startling facts from the pamphlet, which are quite new to me:—In 1866, of 20,410 recruits for the Army inspected, 7761—i.e., 380 per 1000—were rejected. Of these 4320 were malformed or otherwise diseased. Out of 5567 boys who applied for service in the Navy 4410 were rejected. Of 530 candidates for railway employment 201 were rejected; and "during my visits to ragged schools," the author of the pamphlet says, "I found more than 50 per cent affected by deformity of the spine and limbs, by chest complaints, and strumous (scrofulous) diseases; a very considerable number of these complaints is also seen in those girls' schools where constant cramming is going on, with no attention paid to the development of the bodily faculties." Juvenal said that "a healthy mind in a healthy body is a thing to be prayed for!" but Æsop, who lived 500 years before, tells us that, when the waggoner prayed Jupiter to help him to get his waggon out of the ditch, the god roared out from Olympus, "Put your own shoulder to the wheel."

Choosing a Liberal candidate for Colchester was a ticklish business. The late Mr. Gordon Rebow first got the seat in 1865. In 1869, by his influence, the Liberals got two seats. But then Mr. Rebow lived close to Colchester, and was a very popular man with both parties. When he died the Liberals ought to have searched for the very best man to be found; but they put the matter into the hands of the Government agent, who seems to have raked all creation for the worst man. He was beaten by a majority of 427; but 880—most of them Liberals, we may be sure—did not vote.

The respectable inhabitants of Islington, I see, are adopting a course they should have followed long ago. Indeed, if I recollect aright, I myself, several years since, advised them and the residents in the neighbourhood of Westminster Bridge-road to do as the Islingtonians are doing now. Both these localities have long been the haunt, on Sunday evenings, of a crowd of young blackguards who are in the habit of taking possession of the footpath, jostling every respectable person who comes along, and particularly of insulting, and even assaulting, all unprotected females. This nuisance, which the police have been powerless to suppress, has reached such a pitch in Islington that it is no longer bearable, the Upper-street being impassable by decent people; and in consequence a vigilance committee has been formed to suppress the rowdiness which has for a long time disgraced the neighbourhood on Sunday evenings. Last Sunday evening about twenty members of this committee patrolled the Upper-street for some hours, armed with stout canes, and dealt out summary justice to a score or two of offenders whom they caught in the act of annoying respectable people passing along the street. "The roughs," the reporter says, "were completely puzzled, and the police evidently delighted, with this new state of things; and as the word was rapidly passed from one gang to another, in a very short time horse-play had almost entirely ceased. The roughs, finding their fun stopped, left the street in disgust, and persons returning from their places of worship were surprised to find they could walk home unmolested." It is just possible, as a daily contemporary suggests, that the "roughs" may organise themselves, and return to the scene of their operations armed with bludgeons, and so prove too strong for the vigilance committee. But the latter ought to take that possibility into account, and prepare themselves to meet it. A few more canings will cure the "roughs" of their fancy for this disgraceful system of horse-play. Some objections have been taken to this summary mode of maintaining order, and I admit that it is undesirable that such things should be done; but, then, neither the efforts of the police nor the punishments inflicted by the magistrates are effectual to quell these disturbances, what are people to do? The streets are not to be given over to the roughs; so the roughs must be taught to mend their manners by the readiest and most effectual means available. I hope the Islington vigilance committee will be heartily backed by the inhabitants of the district, as well as by the police and the magistrates, who ought not to be too tender of the shoulders of disreputable rowdies, or too considerate of the rights of fellows who pay no respect to the rights of others.

Her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, I learn, notify that an Act, intitled "The Protection of Inventions Act, 1870," 33-34 Vic., cap. 27, has been passed for the protection, amongst other things, of the exhibitors at the annual international exhibitions, and contains provisions similar in character to those which were effectual for the protection of inventors at the Exhibition of 1862, in pursuance of "The Protection of Inventions and Designs Amendment Act, 1862."

THE LITERARY LOUNGER. THE MAGAZINES.

Two good things may be culled from a daily contemporary. Here is one:—"German history is much studied in Prussia by all candidates for a commission, and you will hear many a youngster discoursing learnedly of the wars of past centuries. One of these, talking the other day of this campaign and of his companions in arms being at such a spot at Versailles, said, profoundly, 'And quite right; for really we are still fighting Louis XIV.' I repeated this on the ground yesterday, when a sprightly American lady, very warm in her sympathies, took me up sharply, and said, with peculiarly native wit, 'Then I wish they would go to where he is, and fight it out there.' The next occurred in a leader in the same contemporary:—"It was a celebrated leader of the Opposition who once said that to be weak was to be miserable." If this is the joke it appears to be, and not a mistake, it is extremely neat. "A celebrated leader of the Opposition!"—it is a capital name for Milton's image of the personage whom the American lady presumed to be stirring up the brimstone around Louis XIV.

The *Cornhill* contains another paper relating to the war—"How the Uhlands took Mousseux les Caves"—and highly entertaining it is. Some "Recollections of a Reader" appear (I am only guessing) to be by Mr. R. H. Horne, and he certainly says one very good thing in referring to the alterations which poets and others make in edition after edition of their writings. "It is rather hard upon us greybeards to be told by a younger generation that we are misquoting our favourite poet." The paper on the "Consular Service" is informing and well written; and the whole number is admirable. The illustrations are not, I think, as good as they ought to be.

In *Macmillan* Mr. Ruskin corrects Mr. Stopford A. Brooke in a rather serious error of quotation, or semi-quotation, in the October number. But it does not affect the value of Mr. Brooke's criticisms. Mr. Reed contributes rather a grave paper upon "The Navy," and seems to me to make out a case. But the second paper "On Army Organisation" is even more objectionable than the first. It is evidently written by some soldier of the old school, and no doubt contains valuable hints (whether you take them or not); but the cloven foot of "militarism" peeps out in several places. The writer shirks the story of how Prussia came to have a landwehr; its expensiveness in the long run; its relations to the standing army; its influence on political progress, and so on. He treats it as a final argument that the principle of conscription is already recognised in the militia. Well, what if it is? Have we never before seen fit to rescind laws and reverse principles? Look at this—"The reserve battalions . . . would cherish the same esprit-de-corps as the regulars." No doubt, and a pretty state of things that would be. "The whole army would be fused together, and, spreading its roots wide, and striking deep into the social institutions of the country," &c. Ye gods, what a prospect for free England! Yet this old soldier evidently thinks it would be fine. Note this, also:—"Marriage, except for certain non-commissioned officers,

should be forbidden, it being no hardship for men enlisted at nineteen years of age to wait from three to seven years before they can marry. This would cause an important saving. *Pensions would be almost entirely done away with for the rank and file,*" &c. These are not all the cool passages I could select from a paper which strikes me as being the most impudent exhibition of the old Tory "militarism" that I ever read. The notion that the discipline of the camp, young men being forbidden to marry, tends to "eradicate vicious propensities" is rich. Why, the celibate soldiery of England are the very stronghold, and, so to speak, the centre of organisation, for two of the worst vices. I suspect the writer is a very old man. He is certainly Scotch, judging not only from his style, but from other indications. I suppose the very beautiful poem upon "The Implicit Promise of Immortality" is by the writer of that poem on the "Passion-Play" in a recent number. Miss Frances Power Cobbe, on "Unconscious Cerebration," is good and interesting, but not satisfactory. The idea that our conscience does not reproach us in dreams for what wrong we dream we do is quite contrary to facts, so far as I know them. With respect to our suddenly recovering, while thinking of something else, some name or other matter that we had failed to recall by direct effort, a great deal is to be said. One thing is, that there is very often in these cases an external suggestion more or less near. Suppose you cannot remember the name of Lord Shaftesbury when he was only a peer by courtesy. You give it up. Next day it comes suddenly into your head, while you are looking at Mr. Tennyson's "Princess." "The Princess" has nothing to do with it, and you lay it all to "unconscious cerebration." But no; if you "think back," as north-country people say, you will find that, somehow or other, the line about the "delay" of the "tender ash" slid into your mind, and you naturally got what you wanted—Lord Ashley.

In *Temple Bar*, in an article entitled "Strasbourg after the Siege," occurs the following acute observation concerning Bismarck:—

Notwithstanding all the cleverness and intelligence of this great statesman, we cannot but state that he is precisely the cause of those blunders which hinder most his own purposes—at least, in reference to the people. All these blunders arise from one single fault: his great susceptibility to censure. He not only takes notice of the opinion of the most obscure country paper, which does not exert any influence whatever, but prosecutes the author of an inopportune article with great severity. An astonished public inquires for the cause, and the article, which would have been forgotten in two days, becomes known over all Germany.

Once a Week contains a most laughable paper on "Meat Teas"—by far the cleverest thing I have seen in the periodical since Mr. Dallas quitted it. The "Table Talk" is also better this time, and some one rightly points out that the word "decimated" has been much misused in our war literature and telegrams.

That, I suppose, is part of the fun—such as it is—of one of those parodies of the recent war telegrams which are contained in a piece of nonsense in *Tom Hood's Comic Annual*. It looks like a reminiscence of a certain Strasbourg telegram from the famous Consul at Basle, who recorded the destruction of 10,000 Prussians by a mitrailleuse, in a place from which the Prussians could not possibly be reached. Mr. Hood has done wonders, this time, in selecting his matter. Mr. Leland ("Hans Breitmann") is gaily to the fore, and Mr. W. Sawyer must take high honours. The best story is that of Mr. Dutton Cook. Mr. Yates's "Pompey Gréno" verses look too much like a puff, besides being otherwise open to severe criticism.

I did not speak half as warmly as I ought to have done of the new cover to *Good Words for the Young*. The reason is "a caution" worth telling to my reviewing brethren. At the top left-hand corner of this new cover, by Mr. Arthur Hayes, is a conspicuous birch-rod. In the copy that came to me first this corner was "smudged" in the printing off, and I did not perceive till a second and very careful look that the black "smudge" was a bird which is helping to tear the rod to pieces, while a second bird is already bearing off a portion of it. The reason I took the second look is "the caution." It struck me that it was almost impossible that either the publishers of the magazine, or the editor, or the artist, could intend to give the rod a place of honour. Thus, a little consideration of the probabilities of the case led me to the truth, and left me free to enjoy the rest of a beautiful design, for the children are most lovely. I said nothing about this object of disgust because I had my doubts whether I could possibly have caught up the truth about it. If the gentlemen on the *Saturday* and in a few other places will exercise a little of that sort of caution upon this hint, they are welcome to call me a Pharisee.

Messrs. Lockwood and Co. have in preparation a new edition, carefully revised by its venerable author, of Mr. Charles Cowden Clarke's "Riches of Chaucer," a work which has long been out of print and in considerable request. A new edition of the same author's "Tales from Chaucer" is also announced by the same publishers.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Déjazet is delightful. I am surprised that she does not attract better houses. The programme at the Opéra Comique has been changed this week. A trifling comédietta, called "Le Marquis de Lauzun," is now the principal attraction of the evening. I say trifling advisedly. There is nothing in it, as there was nothing in "Les Frères St. Gervais," but into the space of one hour and a half the dramatist manages to stuff opportunities for all Déjazet's inimitable art. "Patter versus Clatter" is not a good play, but Charles Mathews manages to get a good deal of fun out of it. And so the "Marquis de Lauzun" is not what the vulgar would call a good play. Levasseur gave an entertainment, but who cared about the entertainment so long as they got Levasseur? It was the same story with Charles Mathews, and his father before him. Déjazet, in these little plays, gives a pretty drawing-room entertainment. For instance, in the "Marquis de Lauzun" she is a stuttering tutor, a drunken huntsman, a bashful lover, and a smart Marquis. There are excellent touches of character in all. The singing is, indeed, a treat. It is worth all the money to hear Déjazet recite one of the pretty love songs with which the play abounds. I take Déjazet's singing—or whatever you choose to call it—as the very perfection of taste. It is just right. I would honestly, as far as pleasure is concerned, sooner hear Déjazet trill out one of these charming chaconnettes than pay a guinea for a stall at the opera, where the orthodox people are to be found. The great guns please me—though not always; Déjazet affects me. The theatre is against her; it is too large; it should be half the size for Déjazet. She is a little person, and all her associates are little people. They want a small theatre. The Prince of Wales's, or the Strand, or even the King's Cross, would have been quite large enough.

Mr. Strange has taken his banished ballet to the STANDARD, in Shoreditch. It is gorgeous and extremely decorous. But I do not think the East-Enders will care much about Mdlle. Pitteri or Mr. Strange's ballet; they would much rather have a blood-and-murder melodrama. Meanwhile the ALHAMBRA has been turned into a promenade concert, and appears to be more popular than ever. So, under the circumstances, the newspapers might have spared a few of their tears *à propos* of the ruined management. As to the poor ballet-girls, to my certain knowledge they are to appear on at least a dozen stages at Christmas-time. Five or six managers claim them. So all is for the best again.

"Zampa" will be shortly withdrawn at the Gaiety in favour of "Fra Diavolo" and "The Waterman."

Miss Marie Wilton threatened the other day to withdraw "M. P." and put up "Ours;" but since the announcement there has been such a rush to see the last of "M. P." that, under the circumstances, he will not accept the Chiltern Hundreds just yet awhile.

Mr. Gilbert's fairy comedy will be produced next Saturday at the Haymarket. I hear also of a new comedy at the Globe, and of "Little Nell" at the Olympic, dramatised, of course, by Mr. Andrew Halliday.

FINE ARTS.

EXHIBITION OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN ARTISTS, FRENCH GALLERY.

THE eighteenth annual winter exhibition in the French Gallery shows unmistakable symptoms of a falling off in the number and quality of the works of foreign artists—a difference, perhaps, to be accounted for by the present unhappy condition of affairs on the Continent. Among the two hundred and eleven pictures now occupying the wall of this small gallery, however, there are many admirable works; and, though the dark November weather has been adverse to any complete notice of some of those which are hung either too high or too low to be seen, except on a clear, bright day, enough may be discovered to interest the visitor in one of the best small exhibitions of the season. First to attract attention are Mr. B. W. Leader's two charming pictures, "A Worcestershire Cottage" and "On the Coast of Cornwall" (Nos. 8 and 9), in the former of which the water is painted with that wonderfully liquid effect which is always to be seen in the work of this consummate artist; while the clearness and beauty of tone in the second work would make it conspicuous among a dozen more pretentious efforts. Mr. T. Creswick's "Crossing the Ford" is also an attractive subject; while, under the title of "Return from the Fields—Twilight" (6), Mr. L. Meyerheim sends a fine example of truthful handling. Mr. H. Koekkoek, sen., and Mr. H. P. Koekkoek exhibit, the former two, and the latter three, Dutch scenes, remarkable for their clearness and coolness of light; and one of them, "Breeze on the Zuyder Zee" by the elder gentleman, for its power and ease of drawing. "On the Lluggy, North Wales" (36), is another example of Mr. Leader's marvellous rendering of water and foliage. A pretty, carefully-finished picture, by Mr. P. J. Clays, "On the Scheldt" (13), deserves attentive notice; and "Milking-Time" (34), by Mr. H. Mauve, is among the works that will not readily be passed over.

Of the sea-pieces, Mr. Th. Weber's "Wreck on the Goodwin Sands" (21) is, perhaps, the most striking. Indeed, it would be a remarkable picture in any gallery—full of the toss and tumble of the waves, and of the drift, and spray, and cloud-wrack that befits the subject. It is seldom that sea and sky are so admirably and truly painted as in this bold but unexaggerated work.

Another picture that arrests attention because of its undemonstrative power is "The Timber Wain" (24), by Mr. W. Lommens, a fine example of gloomy sky and the effect of light. "Sheep in the Meadows," by Mr. T. S. Cooper, R.A., and one of Mr. F. Goodall's camels "Crossing the Desert" (40) bring us to "The Removal," by Mr. Jozef Israels (46), representing a poor family trudging along with a kind of handbarrow full of their "poor sticks" of furniture and household belongings. The nature of the country and the aspect of the people suggest the French inhabitants of the "banlieu" retreating to Paris at the commencement of the German investment; but no explanatory note accompanies the picture.

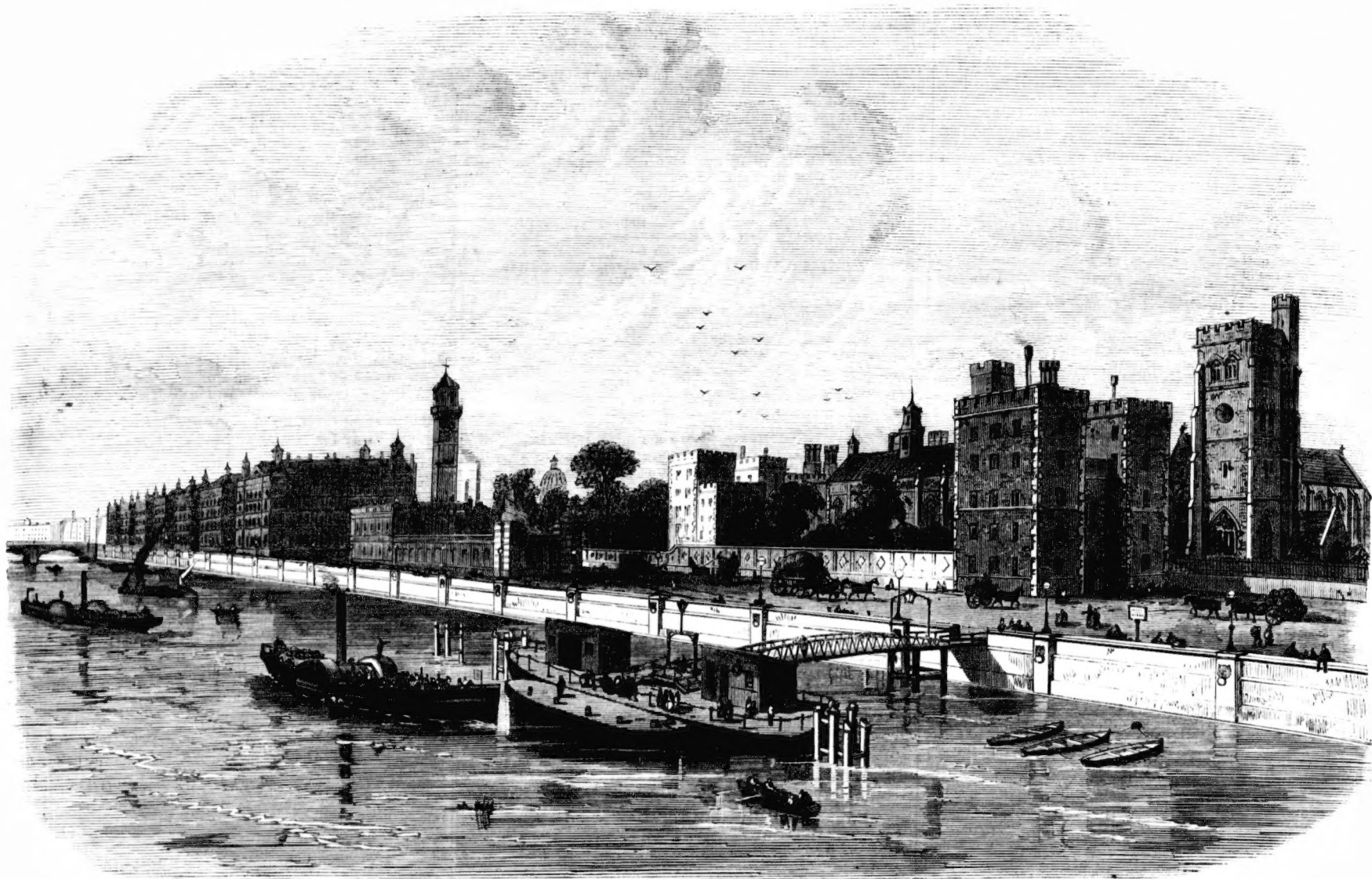
Mr. W. Q. Orchardson's "Taming the Shrew" (47) is a successful delineation of the scene between Kate and her husband during his first jilting lesson. Above these is "The Forge," a fine picture by Mr. J. F. Herring, sen., with one of the artist's grand grey horses clamping out of the canvas. While we are speaking of horses, we must go a little out of our way to notice a little picture by Mrs. Newcomen, entitled "Stacking Barley" (157), in which the attempt to paint a full front view of an honest earhorse, with his cereal load, preparing on the wain behind him, is so successful that, notwithstanding its small size, the subject cannot fail to excite admiration. Going back to a group of small pictures, we may specially mention "Pat a Cake" (31), by Mr. G. E. Hicks, a very charming baby subject. In "Curiosity," by Mr. L. Bakalowiez, and "The Messenger," by Mr. Leon-y-Escosura, we recognise attempts in the school of Meissonnier, but without the exquisite finish of that master. Mr. T. Faed's picture, "When the Day is Done," finds a place here, and will be seen with renewed interest. "A Little Bit of Scandal" (95), by Mr. J. B. Burgess, represents three charming Spaniards gossiping on a bench beneath the trees, and a wily old padre listening to their talk. They are very pretty varieties of brunette; but, like most such pictures, they are more artists' model Spaniards than actual Spanish women.

Two cleverly-painted and well-finished pictures by Mr. John Morgan are respectively entitled "All True" (106) and "The Coastguard" (145) are humorous representations of seacoast groups; the former, representing a coastguardman spinning a yarn to a knot of grinning fishermen, will assuredly be popular to that "general visitor" who is so often alluded to in notices of exhibitions. A very pretty little bit is Mr. George Smith's "Uninvited Guest" (100), the said guest being a bold, perky little robin, who has just hopped over the threshold of a cottage kitchen, where, beside the adults at the table, a quiet, little girl is seated with her porringer behind the door, where she quietly watches the intruder. Mr. H. Gierynski sends an effective painting of national cavalry on the march during the Insurrection in Poland, 1863; and Mr. F. Grunewald a pretty characteristic household subject, entitled "May Day in Bavaria," in which the children of the family are bringing in the maybuds and wreaths, while the elders are sitting smoking and gossiping at the cottage-door. "Padre Francisco" (138), by Mr. E. Long, represents a portly priest fast asleep, and his acolyte awakening him at the approach of a lady towards the half-opened door. Boldly and solidly painted, the figures are full of character, while the colouring is masterly and admirably balanced. A capital picture is "Five Minutes Peace," by Mr. J. Hayllar—a bonnie young tyrant, who, having come into possession of a toy drum, has beaten it till he has beaten everybody, himself included, and now has fallen off to sleep in an arm-chair, with the truculent, wilful expression still on his face. Mr. A. H. Tourrier's fine painting of "Henry II. of France and Diana of Poitiers witnessing the Execution of a Protestant" is re-exhibited in this gallery, and with this and an exquisitely finished picture, by Mr. L. Perrault, called "The Young Mother," and a very admirable painting, by Mr. Escosura, representing a visit of Charles I. to Vanduyck's studio, we must close our present notice of a very interesting exhibition.

LOAN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS, 53, Pall-mall.

This collection, which has been opened to the public for a month, at the gallery of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, is exhibited for the benefit of the National Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest, an institution which has been erected at Ventnor, in the Isle of Wight, on the separate or cottage principle. The mere statement of the objects of the exhibition will probably be sufficient to attract to it a large degree of interest; but it may also be regarded as an attraction in itself, since it affords to visitors an opportunity of seeing some of the masterpieces in modern water colours, which, as they are private property, lent for this purpose, will not be open to general inspection after the closing of the gallery. It would, of course, be out of the question to write a critical notice of pictures which have long been regarded as beyond criticism; but it may be mentioned that a great number of fine examples of the styles of David Cox, De Wint, W. Hunt, J. Lewis, Birket Foster, Barrett, Copley Fielding, Mulready, Prout, David Roberts, Topham, J. M. W. Turner, Rosa Bonheur, and a score of other eminent artists are included in the catalogue.

MR. JACOB BRIGHT, in his speech at Manchester on Wednesday night spoke of his brother, Mr. John Bright, as follows:—"Allow me to say that, although it may be weeks and even months before the public will see him again, yet I have no more doubt than I have of my own existence that his voice will be again heard throughout the length and breadth of the land upon great questions."



THE ALBERT EMBANKMENT, SURREY SIDE OF THE THAMES.

THE ALBERT EMBANKMENT.

We have so often and so fully described the Thames Embankment, both north and south, that it is unnecessary to again go over the ground, in connection with the accompanying Engraving. The Illustration, as will at once be seen, represents the part of the Embankment between Lambeth Palace, on the right, and new St. Thomas's Hospital, on the left, as it appears in its completed state.

PICTURES AT SOUTH KENSINGTON.

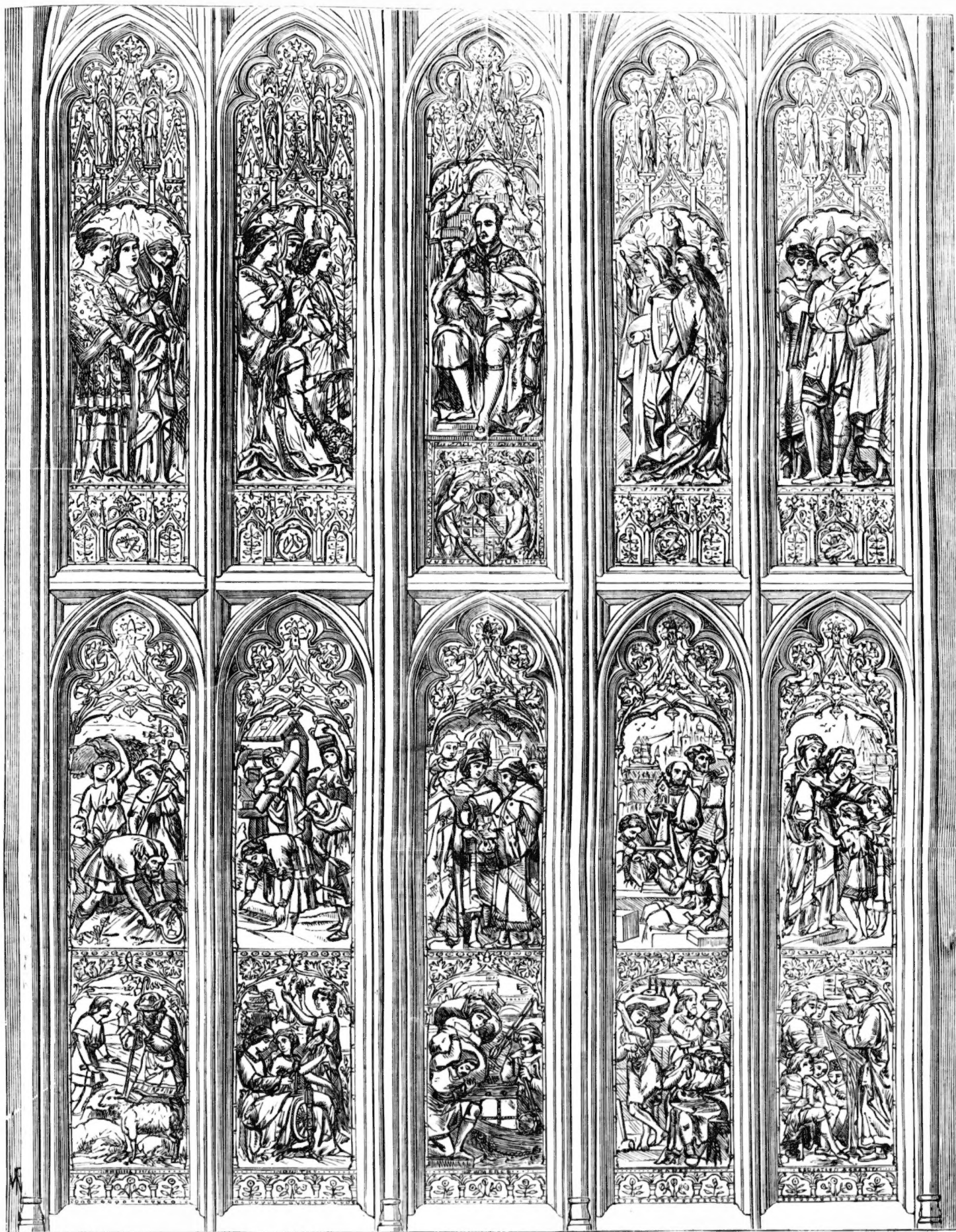
"CATCHING FROGS" is the title of a picture by B. Menn, of Geneva, in that Townsend Collection of which we spoke last week, and is distinguished for great beauty of colour and handling. The subject is simple enough, and belongs rather to those who, in brighter days, we were wont to call "our lively neighbours the French." The use of frogs in the cuisine has often been one of the customs with which they have been taunted by

people who thought nothing of picking a pint of shrimps with their ten, or of spending luxurious minutes in extracting periwinkles from their shells with the aid of a pin.

It is not the common folk who could afford the finer culinary frogs, however. The edible Rana were preserved and fed in pools, just as the old monks kept their carp in "stews," in the abbey gardens. We suspect, after all, that the frogs caught by the urchins represented in the picture were but the first wild stock, to



"CATCHING FROGS."—(PICTURE BY B. MENN, GENEVA, IN THE TOWNSEND BEQUEST, SOUTH KENSINGTON.)



THE ALBERT MEMORIAL WINDOW, GUILDHALL.

be bred and developed into something between fish and game, for a fricandeau or a toothsome ragout. Perhaps, after all, it is better to regard the subject only from the ordinary point of view, and, despite the serious and business-like look of the urchin engaged in the sport, take it only as a wayside incident of rural life. In any case, its artistic merits give it a high place in one of the most charming collections of paintings now open to the Saturday half-holiday-maker.

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL WINDOW IN GUILDHALL.

THIS window, which was unveiled last week by Prince Arthur, is a five-light transomed one, the lower tier double-panelled, so that the number of divisions is fifteen; there are also two side wings, occupied by four figures, representing Wisdom, Prudence, Justice, and Fortitude. The design, though of the nineteenth century, is intended to harmonise with the architecture of the hall, and is in accordance with the principle of treatment observed in the best examples of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. The lower tier is occupied by five subjects, the representation of each filling two panels, thus:—I. Agriculture—(1) the shepherd tending his flock and the ploughman his plough, and (2) a harvest scene. II. Industry—(1) women spinning, &c., and (2) bleaching cloth. III. Trade—(1) a blacksmith and a goldsmith at work, (2) a mason and a builder. IV. The institutions in which his Royal Highness took so great an interest—(1) education, (2) orphanage. V. Commerce—(1) ships loading and unloading, (2) merchants on 'Change. The upper row contains representations of (1) music, poetry, and history; (2) peace, purity, religion, and home prosperity; (3) architecture, painting, and sculpture; (4) science and the learned bodies. In the centre of these is a figure of the Prince seated in an attitude of meditation, book in hand; in the background are two figures unveiling the first Crystal Palace, or Exhibition of 1851, an event which exercised so

much influence on arts and commerce. The Prince is represented in the robes of the Order of the Garter, rendered, together with the surrounding groups, as far as circumstances would permit, consistent with the principles of mediæval treatment. Below is

the Prince's coat of arms or shield, surrounded by a crown of peace and held by two angels as peaceful messengers. The smaller upper openings of tracery contain the Royal arms and those of the city of London, with the personal crests of the Prince and the several Orders of the Bath, Garter, St. Patrick, and St. Michael and St. George, together with the arms of the City companies of which the Prince was a member. The work is a mosaic in the strictest sense, and there are as many as 580 pieces of glass in one square of thirty superficial feet. The entire design, together with the execution, is that of Mr. Hughes, of the firm of Ward and Hughes, 67, Frith-street, Soho-square.

The history of the memorial was detailed in a report from the City Lands Committee by Mr. Robert Taylor, their chairman, on the reference to them of April 29, 1869, ordering that the west window of the Guildhall should be filled with stained glass in the highest style of art, in memory of the many virtues and the high and spotless character of the late Prince Consort. It stated that it had been thought right that both foreign and British artists should have opportunities of competing for the work, and advertisements were inserted in the leading journals inviting designs and estimates. Twenty designs were received by the committee, who, after a very careful consideration, selected six, which were submitted to her Majesty for inspection, through Sir Thomas Biddulph. These were soon afterwards returned, the Queen intimating her approval of two of them more particularly. One of these—viz., that sent in by Messrs. Ward and Hughes—was unanimously accepted by the committee, they considering that the most effective window would be produced from that design. In that choice they had since received an expression of her Majesty's entire concurrence. They consequently made the necessary arrangements for its formation, at an expense of £1000, and it had now been completed to their utmost satisfaction.

On occasion of unveiling the window, the City authorities were represented by the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and members of the Common Council and of the

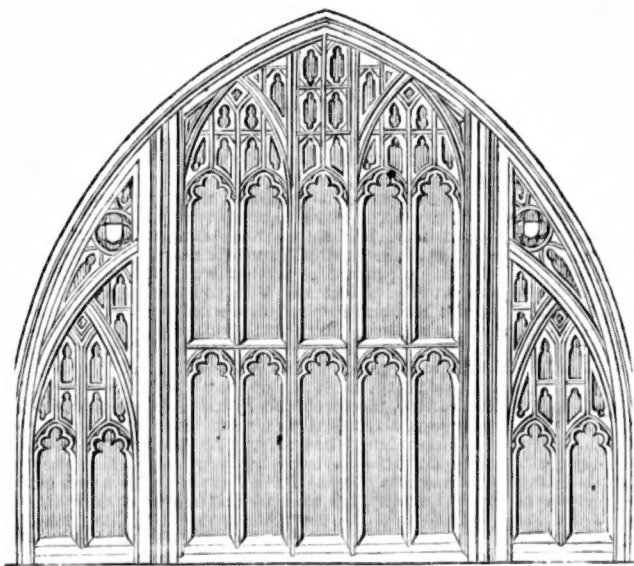


DIAGRAM OF THE WINDOW

Court of Aldermen. There was a numerous general attendance, admission being by ticket. This is the first occasion on which Prince Arthur has directly represented her Majesty at a public ceremony. He was most cordially received, and his bearing throughout appeared to produce on the spectators a highly favourable impression. His Royal Highness, attended by Colonel Elphinstone and Lieutenant Pickard, drove up to the hall shortly after one o'clock, and was received by a deputation of aldermen and members of the City Lands Committee at the principal entrance, where a platform and awning had been erected, and where a considerable crowd had collected, by whom the Prince was heartily cheered on his arrival. The ground in front was kept by a guard of honour, consisting of rifle volunteers, whose band—that of the London Rifle Brigade—struck up the National Anthem on the Prince making his appearance. The reception deputation consisted of Alderman Sir Robert Carden, Mr. Alderman Gibbons, Mr. Alderman Stone, Mr. Alderman Cotton, Mr. Robert Taylor (chairman of the City Lands Committee), and other members of that body. The Committee, forming in procession, conducted the Prince along the hall, amidst great cheering, to the platform at the east end, where he was received by the Lord Mayor, taking his seat on his Lordship's right. The Prince was in walking-dress. The Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex (Mr. Alderman Ouden and Mr. Sheriff Jones), the members and officers of the Common Council, and of the Court of Aldermen, were in their official costume.

After the Prince had taken his seat, the Town Clerk read the resolution in accordance with which the memorial window had been carried out. It was a resolution passed at a meeting of the Common Council, which had been moved by Mr. Beckford and seconded by Sir Joseph Causton, and was in these terms:—"That, in order to illustrate in an enduring manner the very high esteem entertained by this court for the memory of the Prince Consort, the west window of the Guildhall be filled with stained glass in the highest style of art, in commemoration of his many virtues and of his high and spotless character, and that it be referred to the City Lands Committee to carry the same into effect."

Mr. Taylor, chairman of the City Lands Committee, then presented the committee's report, the substance of which is given above. Mr. Taylor also stated that the committee had taken steps to ascertain what might be the wishes of her Majesty with respect to the uncovering of the memorial window; and, although informed that it was not very probable her Majesty would be present personally on that occasion, they received, through the Lord Mayor, a communication from Mr. Gladstone intimating that her Majesty had graciously consented to the ceremony being performed by his Royal Highness Prince Arthur.

The Lord Mayor said his Royal Highness now desired that the window should be uncovered.

The screen was accordingly drawn aside, and the spectators expressed their approbation of the work by prolonged cheering.

A number of speeches were then delivered, the remarks of his Royal Highness being neat and appropriate; and the day's proceedings were wound up by a banquet at the Mansion House.

ATTEMPTED REVOLUTION IN PARIS.

THE painful news of the capitulation of Metz, and the capture of Le Bourget by the Prussians, produced among the population of the capital an excitement which may easily be understood. The ultra-Radical coterie sought to take advantage of the public agitation to realise its own particular plans, and between two and three o'clock on the afternoon of Oct. 31 the leaders of this clique, aided by a fraction of the National Guard, invaded the Hôtel de Ville and proclaimed what is called the Commune. From three o'clock until eight Paris remained in ignorance of the exact progress of events at the Hôtel de Ville. According to some, matters were restricted to the acceptance of the programme of the Commune by the Provisional Government. According to others, the Provisional Government was overthrown, and its place taken by MM. Blanqui, Flourens, Ledru-Rollin, Pyat, Motu, Greppo, Delescluze, Victor Hugo, and Louis Blanc, to whom were added MM. Dorian and Rochefort.

This last version was, indeed, for some hours on the point of being realised, the organisers of the invasion of the Hôtel de Ville having kept the members of the Provisional Government in arrest for a considerable time, with the object of forcing them to give in their resignation. The following was the course which events took. At five p.m. the Hôtel de Ville was entered by a crowd, and one of the individuals composing it jumped on to a table and proclaimed the deposition of the Government. M. Flourens was at the head of the movement, and he came, he said, to make known the will of the citizens, who had decided upon the immediate installation of the Commune by a vote which had been taken on the spur of the moment in a neighbouring hall. M. Ernest Picard, perceiving the danger of the situation, succeeded in effecting his escape and proceeded to the Ministry of Finance, where he took the speediest possible measures for organising opposition to the Commune, his colleagues being in the mean time detained prisoners by the Revolutionists. M. Picard wrote and signed orders to the staff of the National Guard, and ordered the call to arms to be made in all the quarters of Paris. He had the National Printing Office occupied by troops and prohibited the *Official Journal* from printing anything. He also sent word to the different Ministries to hold themselves ready for defence.

Towards eight p.m. General Trochu and M. Jules Ferry were set free by the 166th Battalion of the National Guard, which was the first to arrive in the square of the Hôtel de Ville. The other members of the Government remained under the guard of the battalion commanded by Gustave Flourens. A messenger from the Hôtel de Ville came during the evening to the Ministry of Finance, with an order signed by Blanqui. He was arrested, and M. Picard retained possession of the order as proof of Blanqui's guilt in usurping power without the assent of the nation. Admiral de la Roncière and Admiral de Chailly soon came and placed themselves at the orders of M. Picard, who throughout the affair showed an amount of coolness and presence of mind worthy of the highest praise. Towards ten p.m. M. Picard joined the Governor of Paris, who was taking active measures for the restoration of order, several battalions of Mobiles having assembled at his command, and the National Guard having at the same time collected in the Place Vendôme. Between eleven p.m. and midnight several battalions of National and Mobile Guards defiled in the direction of the Hôtel de Ville, where MM. Garnier Pages, Jules Favre, Jules Simon, and Magnin were still kept in confinement as hostages by two battalions from Belleville. M. Jules Favre showed great firmness with the rioters, declaring to them that, as he had been chosen by the whole population, he would only retire before a regularly-constituted Government. The agitators who surrounded Flourens demanded that the members of the Government should be sent to Vincennes, and some even uttered still stronger threats. At about half-past twelve seven battalions of Mobile Guards concentrated behind the Hôtel de Ville, in which the battalions from Belleville had barricaded themselves. A company of Mobiles now succeeded in effecting an entrance by a side door, and thence proceeded to one of the large gates, which they opened, thus admitting a goodly number of their comrades, who gradually drove back the rioters to the upper stories. At the same time numerous battalions of National Guards arrived on the spot, shouting "Long live the Republic!" "Long live Trochu!"

Some shots are said to have been fired in the scuffle, but it is not known by whom, and no one, moreover, was hurt. The Mobiles did not even need to use their bayonets. The Mobiles, once masters of the Hôtel de Ville, shut the rioters up in the cellars, from which they subsequently brought them out, disarmed them, and set them at liberty. At three a.m. all was quiet. This termination might easily have been imagined. The movement was, indeed, merely a surprise; and the National Guards, from six o'clock in the evening, showed by their attitude that they would not ratify what had occurred. The riot might have been

suppressed much sooner, the delay being due merely to the wish to avoid bloodshed.

STATEMENT BY GUSTAVE FLOURENS.

M. Gustave Flourens, in a narrative communicated to the *Figaro* of the 4th inst., says:—

"Arriving at the Hôtel de Ville about three o'clock, we met citizens who told us that the levy *en masse* and the election of the Commune had been decided, and that MM. Dorian and Schoelcher had been appointed to preside over the elections, and form a link between the old Government and the new." It appears that during the confusion and excitement at the Hôtel de Ville an arrangement of that kind was come to, and a placard bearing the signature of M. E. Arago, Mayor of Paris, was issued, a fact which subsequently led to M. Arago's resignation. M. Flourens proceeds:—"We could not be certain of this intelligence, and pushed on to the Hôtel de Ville, to the gates of which I advanced with my tirailleurs. Having entered, I saw the Commandant of the place, who told me of the arrangement of which I had heard before, and asked me thereupon to embrace him, as a sign of complete satisfaction. I formed my tirailleurs on the Quai, and then entered the hotel alone. There I found the halls full of citizens, nearly all of whom were without arms, and discussing affairs in the greatest disorder. All the discussions, however, led to this result, that a Government so false as that in office was not to be trusted to fulfil any promise, and that a Committee of Public Safety must be formed, having the confidence of the people. The crowd became quiet, and I was asked to speak, and name some persons worthy of trust. I named Dorian, Flourens, Félix Pyat, Motu, Arvil, Ravvier, Millière, Blanqui, Delescluze, Louis Blanc, Kaspaal, Rochefort, Victor Hugo, and Ledru-Rollin. I read this list successively in two of the large halls of the Hôtel de Ville, and then to a crowd outside, and everywhere the names were acclaimed with enthusiasm. I was told to go into the hall where the members of the late Government were sitting—for they were deposed by the fact of this new election, much more valid than that of Sept. 4, inasmuch as we had not been chosen as men who had taken the oath to the Emperor, but because the people had confidence in us. Moving to the hall I found there Trochu, Garnier Pages, Jules Simon, Jules Ferry, Jules Favre, and General Tamié. The citizens now surrounded me, begged me to get on the table and proclaim the arrest of those gentlemen, and I read the list of the new Government, but the arrest was not at that moment practicable. I could not effect it myself, and the good will of the citizens around me did not suffice. At the first appearance of a reactionary company with fixed bayonets the citizens would have disappeared, leaving me alone with our prisoners. I confined myself, therefore, to keeping them in sight, and sent for my tirailleurs to come to me. But the avenues of the Hôtel de Ville were so crowded that it was half an hour before they arrived. During this time I prayed some of my colleagues of the new Government to join me. I also dictated the notification of the Committee of Public Safety, and sent it off to the national printing office, and to the Mairies. When my tirailleurs arrived I led them to the hall, and sent the rest to guard the avenues of the Hôtel de Ville. Millière came, and Ravvier. The former proposed to me to sign an order for the arrest of the members of the deposed Government. To sign was easy enough; to execute, difficult. Millière had not brought his battalion with him; at least he did not tell me that it was there. It appeared afterwards that his chief was not disposed to run risks, and it was sent home. With the exception of two companies of another battalion, which remained with me until midnight, I had not, during all these proceedings, more than my own 500 men at my disposal, and it was with this handful that I held the Hôtel de Ville until five o'clock in the morning. Many battalions of devoted democratic troops came and remained, but separately, and without placing themselves under our order. If the Belleville battalions, which came later, had been in time we should not have lost a single prisoner. I could not detach 200 of my men to conduct the members of the deposed Government to Mazas—their strength would not have sufficed, and with the other 300 I should not have been able to occupy the Hôtel de Ville. I therefore contented myself with detaining them on the spot. Suddenly, M. Iboe, Commandant of the 166th Battalion, entered with his armament. Two furious churchmen, seeing me standing on the table, menaced me with death. Their chief jumped on the table, and while he was occupying my attention with his gesticulations, two of my prisoners, Ferry and Trochu, were spirited away. I then got down, to make sure of the others. Blanqui arrived, and he and Millière, Ravvier, Delescluze, and Motu, with myself, held a conference, at the end of which we sent out a summons to all the truly democratic chiefs de battalion to come and join us. Suddenly, a messenger came to inform us that, by the subterranean passage in the hotel communicating with the Napoleon Barracks—a passage of the existence of which I was not aware—two battalions of Breton Mobiles had entered with loaded rifles and fixed bayonets. It was plain that a collision would take place between them and my troops, which were now turned. Blanqui, Ravvier, Millière, and I then consulted, and agreed that we had better make a convention with Dorian, who had himself been acclaimed by the people. It was plain that with 500 men we could not make head against the two Breton battalions and others who might enter by the same passage, and against those who might besiege us from without. It would have been useless just now to have exposed the men to destruction, all the more certain inasmuch as they had not more than six cartridges with them. We therefore agreed with Dorian as follows:—"The elections for the Commune shall take place this day (Tuesday, Nov. 1), under the direction of Dorian and Schoelcher alone. The elections for a new Government shall take place on the following day, Wednesday. In order to show the good understanding that exists between us, we will leave the Hôtel de Ville together, I with my tirailleurs about me." This agreement was ratified by the members of the Government, and I went down into the lower hall. The Breton Mobiles were at the bottom, with crossed bayonets, and a very menacing attitude. I asked them to send for an officer, who came and gave orders which silenced them. Suddenly Jules Ferry came up and said to me, "We have fifty thousand men; all resistance is impossible. Give up your enterprise, and go away with the honours of war." I told him that we had made an agreement with Dorian, and were about to execute it. As other National Guards continued to arrive, I feared a collision with my tirailleurs. I appealed to General Tamié, who came and calmed their excitement. I then rallied my men. Garnier Pages, Jules Favre, and Jules Simon left the hotel by other gates. Blanqui gave his arm to General Tamié, and went first; and Millière, Ravvier, and I followed, at the head of my tirailleurs. I formed them in the square, in the midst of Trochu's Bretons, and marched them to Belleville, where we arrived proud and happy in having obtained what we required without effusion of blood. But how shamefully have we been deceived!"

ROCHEFORT.

M. Rochefort makes a very curious figure in these proceedings, up to a certain point, and then suddenly disappears. When the Hôtel de Ville was invaded, on the memorable Monday, and the Commune was proclaimed by a thousand voices, loud cries were raised for Rochefort, who was fetched from another part of the building and thrust forward amidst the most discordant cries. As soon as he got on the table, where he had to be held up by his friends, he began to say that the Government was deliberating, when he was interrupted with loud cries of "No deliberations!" "No elections!" "No Commune!" "Down with Rochefort!" A rush was made at the table on which he was standing, and he was near falling. The cries were resumed—"You are a member of the Government! Begone!" Rochefort said, "I am a child of the people, like you!" "You! you are a Count." "I, like you, am an enfant de Paris." "You are an Aristocrat. No Rochefort!" M. Rochefort then mentioned the neutral Powers and the armistice of M. Thiers, and the words seemed to madden the people, and they cried "Down with Thiers! Arrest him! Imprison him! Hang him!" Rochefort then retired, and two days afterwards, withdrew from the Government. The *Journal Officiel* has not noticed the fact, which first transpired in the *Kappel*; but the *Paris Journal* devotes a long notice to it, and says that Rochefort left the Government—first, because he objected to their postponing the municipal elections; next, because he was entirely opposed to an armistice; and, thirdly, because he had been an occasion of scandal, by revealing the fact of Bazaine's negotiations to M. Flourens. The same journal says that what Rochefort saw and underwent at the Hôtel de Ville on the 31st ultimo powerfully affected him, and inspired him with a profound contempt for those in whose cause he laboured, only to receive unmerited insult. At the Hôtel de Ville he was charged with being an aristocrat and a hanger-on of General Trochu. He is said to have exclaimed to a friend, in his bitterness, "They are a canaille, after all." The rioting, the revolutionary madness, the drunkenness, that day, he says, he shall never forget. It was one of those days of which Victor Hugo has said, "Le peuple vient de se dépopulariser." Rochefort said that his heart rose to his throat. He has—always, according to the *Paris Journal*—withdrawn, not only from the Government, but from his old friends at Belleville. Jules Favre and General Trochu both wrote to him to return, but he declined; and, to place himself out of the reach of importunity, he has changed his lodging, and his present residence is unknown.

INSIDE PARIS.

(From the "Diary of a Besieged Resident" in the "Daily News.") Friday, Oct. 28.

THE GARRISON AND ITS SPIRIT.

THE National Guard in Montmartre and Batignolles have held an indignation meeting to protest against their being employed in the forts. A law was passed, on Aug. 10, calling under arms all unmarried men between twenty-five and forty. In Paris it has never been acted on; it would, however, be far better to regularly enrol this portion of the National Guard as soldiers than to ask for volunteers. As long as these "sedentary" warriors can avoid regular service, or subjecting themselves to the discipline and the hardships of real soldiers, they will do so. Before the Pantheon the Mayor of an arrondissement sits on a platform, writing down the names of volunteers. Whenever one makes his appearance a roll of drums announces to his fellow-citizens that he has undertaken to risk his valuable life outside the ramparts. It really does appear too monstrous that the able-bodied men of this city should wear uniforms, learn the goose-step, and refuse to take any part in the defence within shot of the enemy. That they should object to be employed in a campaign away from their homes is hardly in accordance with their appeal to the provinces to rise en masse to defend France, but that they should decline to do anything but go over every twelve days to the ramparts is hardly fighting even for their own homes. Surely as long as the siege lasts they ought to consider that the Government have a right to use them anywhere within the lines of investment. They make now what they call military promenades—that is to say, they go out at one gate, keep well within the line of the forts, and come in at another gate. Some of the battalions are ready to face the enemy, although they will not submit to any discipline. The majority, however, do not intend to fight outside the ramparts. I was reading yesterday the account of a court-martial on one of these heroes, who had fallen out with his commanding officer and threatened to pass his sword through his body. The culprit, counsel urged, was a man of an amiable, though excitable, disposition; that he was the father of two sons, had once saved a child from drowning, and had presented several curiosities to a museum. Taking these facts into consideration, the Court condemned him to six days' imprisonment; his accuser apologised to him and shook hands with him. What is to be expected of troops when military offences of the grossest kind are treated in this fashion? I know myself officers of the Mobile Guard who, when they are on duty at the ramparts, quietly leave their men there and come home to dinner. No one appears to consider this anything extraordinary. Well may General Trochu look up to the sky when it is overcast and wish that he were in Brittany shooting woodcocks. He has undertaken a task beyond his own strength, and beyond the strength of the greatest General that ever lived. How can the Parisians expect to force the Prussians to raise the siege? They decline to be soldiers, and yet imagine that, in some way or other, not only is their city not to be desecrated by the foot of the invader, but that the armies of Germany are to be driven out of France.

At present the very large majority in Paris believe that France must eventually conquer, and that the world is lost in wonder and admiration of their attitude. The siege is one long holiday to the working classes. They are as well fed as ever they were, and have absolutely nothing to do except to play at soldiers. Although the troops are unable to hold the villages within the fire of their forts, they are under the delusion that—to use the favourite expression—the circle in which we are inclosed is gradually but surely being enlarged. I was this morning buying cigars at a small tobacconist's. "Well," said the proprietor of the shop to me, "so we are to destroy the Prussians in twenty days." "Really!" I said. "Yes," he replied; "I was this morning at the Mairie; there was a crowd before it complaining that they could not get meat. A gentleman—a functionary—got upon a stool. 'Citizens and citizenesses,' he said, 'be calm; continue to preserve the admirable attitude which is eliciting the admiration of the world. I give you my honour that arrangements have been made to drive the Prussians away from Paris in twenty days.' Of course," added my worthy bourgeois, "this functionary would not have spoken thus had the Government not revealed its plans to him." At this moment a well-dressed individual entered the shop and asked for a subscription for the construction of a machine which he had invented to blow up the whole Prussian army. I expected to see him handed over to a policeman; but, instead of this, the bourgeois gave him two francs! What, I ask, is to be expected of a city peopled by such credulous fools, and the Government fools them to the top of their bent?

FINE ARTS AND THE THEATRES.

The *Journal des Débats* of Sunday, Oct. 30, contains an article protesting against the bombardment of Paris, on the ground of the possibility of its pictures and statues being liable to be injured. War itself is a reflection upon civilisation; but as long as wars exist, and the capital of one of the belligerents not only is fortified, but serves as an entrenched camp for an army, I hardly see how it can claim exemption from bombardment. Surely pictures and statues might be transported into some bomb-proof cellar. The world, no doubt, would bear my death with greater equanimity than the destruction of a celebrated statue; but, much as I admire works of art, I confess that I should far prefer, as a matter of choice, a cannon ball to pass through the most beautiful picture in the Louvre than through my body; and I suspect, whatever may be said of the atrocity of destroying pictures and statues, the majority of the writers in the *Débats*, as regards themselves, are as selfish as I am.

The theatres are by degrees reopening. In order not to shock public opinion, the programmes of their entertainments are exceedingly dull. Thus the Comédie Française bill of fare for yesterday was a speech, a play of Molière without costumes, and an ode to Liberty. I can understand closing the theatres entirely, but it seems to me absurd to increase the general gloom by opening them in order to make the audiences wish that they were closed. Fancy for an evening's entertainment a speech from Mr. Cole, C.B.; the play of "Hamlet" played in the dresses of the present century; and an ode from Mr. Tupper.

STREET NOMENCLATURE.

The alteration in the nomenclature of the streets continues. The Boulevard Prince Eugène to be called the Boulevard Voltaire, and the statue of the Prince has been taken down, to be replaced by the statue of the philosopher; the Rue Cardinal Fesch is to be called the Rue de Châteaudun. The newspapers also demand that the Rue de Londres should be rebaptised, on the ground that the name of Londres is detested even more than Berlin. "If Prussia (says one writer) wages against us a war of bandits and savages, it is England which, in the gloom of its sombre country houses, pays the Uhlans who oppress our peasants, violate their wives and massacre our soldiers, and pillage our provinces. She rejoices over our sufferings."

THE POSITION OF AFFAIRS.

I will state, in a few words, exactly our condition. We have 500,000 Mobiles and an army of 75,000 soldiers to hold the villages outside the ramparts, to make sorties, and to man the forts, with the 18,000 sailors, who act as artillerymen. Every sortie which has been made has resulted either in a rout or in an orderly movement to the rear. On the south side of the city the Prussians are close into the forts; on the other sides they are at respectable distances. As for their batteries, you probably know more about them than we do. I can only say that I have seen their earth-works at Clamart and at Meudon with my own eyes. Within the ramparts every sort of defensive work has been constructed, and at the gates and on the enceinte there are, perhaps, even too many cannon. The National Guard numbers about 300,000, of whom about 200,000 have guns which would go off without bursting. Among them there are, of course, brave men, but their officers are ignorant of everything connected with war. The

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attempt to obtain volunteers for active service outside the gates resulted in a miserable failure, and the Government does not venture to carry out the law, which subjects all between twenty-five and thirty-five to enrolment in the army. With respect to public opinion, all are opposed to the entry of the Prussians into Paris, or to a peace which would involve a cession of territory; but many equally object to submitting either to real hardship or real danger. They hope against hope that what they call their "sublime attitude" will prevent the Prussians from attacking them, and that they may pass to history as heroes, without having done anything heroic. I had thought that the workmen would fight well, but this I begin to doubt. Under the Empire they got high wages for doing very little. Since the investment of the capital, they have taken their 1*fr.* 50*c.* and their families, and done hardly anything except drill, and about once a week go on the ramparts. So fond are they of this idle existence, that although the private workshops offer 6*fr.* a day to skilled workmen in metals they cannot obtain hands. With respect to provisions, as yet the poorer classes have done better off than they ever were before. Every one gets his 50 or 100 grammes of meat and his share of bread. Those persons alone who were accustomed to luxuries have suffered from their absence. Meat of some kind is, however, to be obtained by any person who likes to pay for it about twice its normal value. So afraid is the Government of doing anything which may irritate the population, that, contrary to all precedent, the garrison and the wounded alone are fed with salt meat.

DONKEY AND CAT.

I never shall see a donkey without gratefully thinking of a Prussian. If anyone happens to fall out with his jackass, let me recommend him, instead of beating it, to slay and eat it. Donkey is now all the fashion. When one is asked to dinner, as an inducement one is told that there will be donkey. The flesh of this delicate but weak-minded quadruped is delicious—in colour like mutton, firm and savoury. This siege will destroy many passions, and amongst them the prejudice which has prevented many animals being used as food. I can most solemnly assert that I never wish to taste a better dinner than a joint of donkey or a ragout of cat—*ex parte crede*.

Tuesday, Nov. 1.

THE EMEUTE AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE.

We have had an exciting twenty-four hours. The Government of the National Defence has, in the course of yesterday, been deposed, imprisoned, and has again resumed the direction of public affairs. I went yesterday, between one and two o'clock, to the Hôtel de Ville. On the place before it there were about 15,000 persons, most of them National Guards from the faubourgs, and without arms, shouting, "Vive la Commune! Point d'armistice!" Close within the rails along the façade there were a few Mobiles and National Guards on duty. One of the two great doorways leading into the hotel was open. Every now and then some authority appeared here to make a speech which no one could hear, and at most of the windows on the first floor there was an orator gesticulating. The people round me said that the Mayors of Paris had been summoned by Arago, and were in one room inside deliberating, whilst in another was the Government. I managed to squeeze inside the rails, and stood near the open door. At about 2.30 the Mobiles who guarded it were pushed back, and the mob was forcing its way through it, when Trochu appeared and confronted them. What he said I could not hear. His voice was drowned in cries of "A bas Trochu!" Jules Simon then got on a chair to try the effect of his eloquence; but in the midst of his gesticulations a body of armed men forced their way through the entrance, and, with about 500 of the mob, got inside the hotel. Just then three or four shots were fired. The crowd outside scampered off, yelling "Aux armes!" and running over each other. I thought it more prudent to remain where I was. Soon the mob returned, and made a rush at both the doors, for the one which had been open had been closed in the interval. This one they were unable to force; but the other, which leads up a flight of steps into the great covered court in the middle of the building, yielded to the pressure, and through it I passed with the crowd, whilst from the windows above slips were being thrown out with the words "Commune décrétee—Dorian president" on them. The covered court was soon filled. In the middle of it there is a large double staircase leading to a wide landing, from which a door and some windows communicate with a long sallo.

This, too, was invaded, and for more than two hours I remained there. The spectacle was a curious one—everybody was shouting, everybody was writing a list of a new Government and reading it aloud. In one corner a man incessantly blew a trumpet, in another a patriot beat a drum. At one end was a table, round which the Mayors had been sitting, and from this vantage ground Felix Pyat and other virtuous citizens harangued, and, as I understood, proclaimed the Commune and themselves, for it was impossible to distinguish a word. The atmosphere was stifling, and at last I got out of a window on to the landing in the courtyard. Here citizens had established themselves everywhere. I had the pleasure to see the "venerable" Blanqui led up the steps by his admirers. This venerable man had, *horresco referens*, been pushed up in a corner, where certain citizens had kicked his venerable frame, and pulled his venerable white beard before they had recognised who he was. By this time it appeared to be understood that a Government had been constituted, consisting of Blanqui, Ledru-Rollin, Delescluze, Louis Blanc, Florens, and others. Florens, whom I now perceived for the first time, went through a corridor, with some armed men, and I and others followed him. We got first into an antechamber, and then into a large room, where a great row was going on. I did not get farther than close to the door, and consequently could not well distinguish what was passing, but I heard that Florens, who was standing on a chair, was calling upon the members of the Government of National Defence, who were seated round a table, to resign, and that Jules Favre was refusing to do so. After a scene of confusion, which lasted half an hour, I found myself, with those round me, pushed out of the room, and I heard that the old Government had been arrested, and that a consultation was to take place between it and the new one. Feeling hungry, I now went to the door of the Hôtel to get out, but I was told I could not do so without a permission from the citizen Blanqui. I observed that I was far too independent a citizen myself to ask anyone for a permit to go where I liked, and as I walked on the citizen sentinel did not venture to stop me. As I passed before Trochu's head-quarters at the Louvre, I spoke to a Captain of the Etat-Major, whom I knew, and whom I saw standing at the gate. When he heard that I had just come from the Hôtel de Ville, he anxiously asked me what was going on there, and whether I had seen Trochu. General Schmitz, he said, had received an order signed by the Mayors of Paris to close the gates of the town, and not on any pretext to let anyone in or out. At the Louvre he said all was in confusion, but he understood that Picard had escaped from the Hôtel de Ville, and was organising a counter-movement at the Ministry of Finance. Having dined, I went off to the Place Vendôme as the *crade* was beating. The National Guards of the quarter were hurrying there, and Mobile battalions were marching in the same direction. I found on my arrival that this had become the headquarters of the Government; that an officer who had come with an order to Picard to go to the Hôtel de Ville, signed by Blanqui, had been arrested. General Fautier was still a prisoner with the Government. Soon news arrived that a battalion had got inside the Hôtel de Ville and had managed to smuggle Trochu out by a back door. Off I went to the Louvre. There Trochu, in uniform considerably deteriorated, was haranguing some battalions of the Mobiles, who were shouting "Vive Trochu!" Other battalions were marching down the Rue Rivoli to the Hôtel de Ville. I got into a cab and drove there. The hotel was lit up. On the "place" there were not many persons; but all round it, in the streets, were Mobiles and

bourgeois National Guards, about 20,000 in all. The hotel was guarded, I heard, by a Belleville battalion, but I could not get close in to interview them. This lasted until about two o'clock in the morning, when the battalions closed in. Trochu appeared with his staff, and in some way or other, for it was so dark nothing could be seen, the new Government was ejected; M. Jules Favre and his colleagues were rescued. M. Delescluze, who was one of the persons there, thus describes what took place:—"A declaration was signed by the new Government declaring that on the understanding that the Commune was to be elected the next day, and also the Provisional Government replaced by an elected one, the citizens designed at a public meeting to superintend the elections withdrew." This was communicated first to Dorian, who appears to have been half a prisoner, half a friend; then to the members of the old Government, who were in honourable arrest; then to Jules Ferry outside. A general sort of agreement appears then to have been made that by-gones should be by-gones. The Revolutionists went off to bed, and matters returned to the point where they had been in the morning.

Sunday, Nov. 6.

THE PROPOSED ARMISTICE.

So we have declined the armistice. The Government deliberated exactly five minutes over the question. The *Journal Officiel* says:—"Prussia expressly refused to entertain the question of revictualment, and only admitted under certain reserves the vote of Alsace and Lorraine." No further details are given. An opportunity has been lost which may never recur. Public opinion was disposed to accept a cessation of the siege on almost any terms. General Trochu, however, and his colleagues had not the civic courage to attach their names to a document which would afterwards have been cast in their teeth. A friend of mine, a military man, saw Trochu late last night. He strongly urged him to accept the armistice, but in vain. "What do you expect will occur? You must know that the position is hopeless," said my friend. "I will not sign a capitulation," was all he could get from Trochu. This worthy man is as obstinate as only weak men can be. His colleagues as self-seeking as only French politicians can be. The news that the armistice had been rejected fell like a thunderclap upon the population. I never remember to have witnessed a day of such general gloom since the commencement of the siege. The feeling of despair is, I hear, still stronger in the army. I may be a false prophet, but my impression is that within a very short time there will be an outcry for peace, which no Government will be able to resist.

I anticipate very shortly a sortie in force. An attempt will be made with the Second Army to pierce the Prussian lines. There appears no doubt for a moment that it will fail, and then the cry of peace will become so strong that the Government will be obliged to listen seriously to it.

Literature.

Against Time. By ALEXANDER INNES SHAND. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

It is, perhaps, not yet time to inquire when we may expect a reaction in the ordinary three-volume novel literature which now fills the shelves of Mudie's and other libraries, and is displaced about once a month to make room for the attempts of succeeding, if not always successful, aspirants to ephemeral fame. The word ephemeral itself, although it may serve to illustrate the brevity of the public appreciation, is altogether too suggestive of a gay and beautiful, if fleeting object, to be altogether applicable to most of the latest examples of "novel" literature. There is nothing exceptional—nothing rare or fascinating to the imagination—little that is captivating to the fancy, in their level realism, only lifted out of the ordinary records of every-day experience by some repulsive or startling incident that has so little connection with the entire narrative, that it is rather a blemish to the art which succeeds in interesting us with a recital of such details as surround our own daily lives. In the representative of the modern novel there is often wonderful facility of expression with little fertility of invention: its object seems rather to be that of reciting to us pleasantly scenes and incidents and the superficial results of passions and emotions that we ordinarily recognise, than of revealing to us the deeper and more powerful sentiments of humanity and the motives which actuate the changing aspects of society. In a large proportion of modern stories the imagination is not stimulated except to recall the quite familiar sights and sounds of every day's experience. The ring of the money-changer's copper shovel, the objectless saunter in the park, the unmeaning talk-exchange of the half hour before dinner, the intrigue that has in it but little passion and still less sentiment, the frivolous fribble of the ball-room, the common speeches and actions of an ordinary acquaintance of the day-before-yesterday brightened and made more vivid, without being much elevated or spiced with more than a flavouring of extra wit and intellect, claim our attention, and for the most part receive it, because they exact no careful thought. We seldom have to pause with one finger between the pages while we solve the plot from the sentiment of the actors in the scene; and at the same time our self-gratulation is intimately connected with the praise we are ready to bestow upon the author who so ably describes aspects of society which we have been clever enough to observe for ourselves without taking the trouble to present them to our own appreciation in such sparkling and well-chosen language.

There is therefore very little depth in the modern representative novel: a certain hard, shrewd, worldliness; an easy kind of morality based on the admitted axiom, that as we are none of us perfect, we needn't expect to discern any great display of virtue in the world, and may well tolerate a large amount of vice; an accurate acquaintance with the daily life of some particular class, and the words and ways of a certain order of people;—these are the qualities which we look for, and generally find.

We do not lose ourselves in profound thought over the pages—there is not depth enough for us to "dive into them;" still less can we "soar in imagination" or "float in fancy." The stream of the story does not ripple on, fringed with natural beauties and gay with bright-winged loves. Hard, smooth, and often clear and polished, we can "skate" over these volumes between breakfast and dinner, or dispose of the main incident of the story in the smoking of a cigarette. It is often very pleasant skating, we admit. We see the course before us, know the ice, and are very little afraid of the "dangerous" with which certain chapters might well be labelled, in order to warn younger and less experienced readers. One of the advantages of this kind of reading, too, is that we don't remember it after Mudie's van has been round and left another batch. Nobody expects us to quote; and before we have quite made up our minds to admire, another "phase" of life, in three more volumes, lies before us, and on go our moral and intellectual skates again for a fresh run.

Among the most successful examples of this "skatey" literature may be reckoned Mr. Shand's last novel, now reprinted, we believe, from the *Cornhill Magazine*. Admirably clear and smooth in style, moderately rapid in incident, and with little impediment because of the study of recondoite thought or feeling, it takes us easily over some ground which we have previously crossed with far less satisfaction. Such objects as we have time to observe on the way we see clearly, as they stand out in a light which makes their outline definite enough, but scarcely serves to reveal their true depth of colour or their actual substance. The foundation of the story is the sudden energy and ability displayed by a rather *blasé* young gentleman, whose aunt (having supported his extravagances) leaves him a large sum of money, only on the condition that he shall himself gain an equal amount within three years. As the acquisition of this sum is not to be by marriage, and the heir has a capital of £18,000 to start with, there is plenty of room for accurate

portrayal of the characters with whose aid, by means of a public financial company, the hero is to achieve such results; and the whole of this part of the book consists of well-drawn and well-balanced pictures. There are, however, love passages and scenes of hatred which are tragic though they are associated with the banking elements and finance operations of the story. None of them are very deeply moving, and the reader, on reflection, is not quite easy on the subject of Hugh Childersleigh being a consummate prig instead of an accomplished and somewhat cynical swell; but clear and accurate expression, swift action, and that kind of interest which, while it does not claim too much reflection, holds the attention of the reader, will enable these three volumes (*"Against Time"*) to take a popular place in the catalogue of the season.

The Religious Life of London. By J. EWING RITCHIE, Author of "British Senators," "The Night Side of London," &c. London: Tinsley Brothers.

This book is dedicated to Mr. Samuel Morley. It is, perhaps, on the whole, the best of Mr. Ritchie's productions, and though not free from his characteristic faults, exhibits less of them than "British Senators." The author is not naturally a politician; but he evidently knows something about churches, chapels, and preachers. Nothing would be more unfair than to judge the book by the greatness of its title, for the religious life of the capital of a country like England is indeed a grand subject if we read it in its high sense, and then Mr. Ritchie's book would be utterly inadequate and trivial; but its pretensions are, we presume, very bounded. At all events the performance is so.

We have here simply a series of readable sketches about different religious and quasi-religious bodies in London—Jews, Roman Catholics, Quakers, Christadelphians, Secularists, Southcottians, and so forth. The author gives you a good deal of information about the people, their places of worship, their ostensible creed and all the rest of it; and has evidently been at pains to gather together as many facts as he could, and also to be fair to everybody. But the sketches never rise above the level of loose newspaper-writing; and the criticisms are sometimes inadequate, flippant, and unduly self-confident. The account of Swedenborgianism is very amusing. The tone of the book is too much that of a man of the world; it is "our own reporter" from beginning to end, and some of the casual touches are positively offensive. "A modest man, I fear, is out of place anywhere, but most of all so in the pulpit." We do not wish to pin Mr. Ritchie down to the letter of that dictum, but it is in very bad taste, read it as you please. Here is another sentence, which is one instance out of many of Mr. Ritchie's vile "grammar":—"As men of the world, these things are to be looked at practically." According to the construction of the sentence "these things" are "men of the world;" but that is nothing; the chief offence is in the sentiment. We do not admire the Separatist spirit, certainly not the "London Ecclesia;" but that is not the way to write about Separatism. Let us take another sentence:—"Such is the formula of doctrine on which as a basis the Unitarian mission at Mile-end has been established, and, to a certain extent, with some measure of success." This bit of double qualification is not only one example more of the author's bad writing, it is also a specimen of the way in which, when it suits him, he can adopt the "as-far-as-it-goes" style of criticism. Mr. Ritchie is a particularly "safe" writer. We may also select here one instance of the author's want of accuracy in important matters:—"It is generally charged against Unitarians that they have no positive dogma." This "general charge" exists chiefly in Mr. Ritchie's brain. That Unitarians have no binding confessions of faith is true; but they are dogmatic, *ex vi termini*. It is scarcely worth while to go on. Mr. Ritchie's book is gossip, always readable, and sometimes good of its kind. The sketch which exhibits the author in his best light is that of Mr. Lynch.

Rupert Rochester, the Banker's Son. By WINIFRED TAYLOR.

The Young Mountaineer. By DARYL HOLME.

Edinburgh: William P. Nimmo.

These are two books for young people, with the clear type, fine paper, and elegant bindings for which Mr. Nimmo's books are so eminently noticeable. Of the stories themselves it is not too much to say that they will prove interesting to most intelligent girls and boys; and, without being written with any too obvious purpose, are well adapted for holiday reading. The first, both in the illustrations which accompany the tale, and some peculiarities in the structure and language of the story, are evidences of its French origin, but it is a very good story notwithstanding, and will certainly be appreciated by a large number of readers both of medium and larger growth. The French source (that of Madame Jeanne Marcel) is stated in an excellent preface; and the editor's and translator's work has been well performed, notwithstanding a certain stiffness and uncolloquial quality in the style.

"The Young Mountaineer" is also a translation from Mdlle. Gouraud, and is a companion volume to "The Lost Father," a tale previously published in this very handsome and acceptable series.

Routledge's Popular Guide to London and its Suburbs. With Original Illustrations and Map. London: Routledge and Sons.

At the present time, when so many strangers are sojourning within our gates, a good, simple, and reliable Guide to London is of the utmost value; and this new issue, by Messrs. Routledge, of their "Popular Guide," revised and extended, is exceedingly well timed. All the points of interest in our great Babel are described, and many of them illustrated; and we are sure that strangers, whether foreign or native—yea, even cockneys born—will find the Guide a great help in making their way about town.

Our Food: A Useful Book for Boys and Girls. By ELLIS A. DAVIDSON. London: Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

This little work, which is one of a series by the same author, of which "Our Bodies," "The Uses of Plants," and "The Animal Kingdom," form part, is intended for the use of boys and girls, and aims at giving some elementary lessons in domestic economy. Both the object the author proposed and the manner in which it is worked out are excellent; and we are sure this book will greatly aid those who study it in laying down rules according to which they may "live as they ought to do;" and, having done that, they will be pretty sure to "die happy fellows."

The Parliamentary Buff Book for 1870. By THOMAS NICHOLAS ROBERTS. London: Eifingham Wilson.

The volume for 1870 of the "Parliamentary Buff Book" has just appeared, and will be found exceedingly useful for reference by politicians. It contains an analysis of the divisions of the House of Commons, with a descending scale of attendances of members at divisions, and a list of members petitioned against; so that constituents may ascertain without much trouble what the House has done during the Session, and how their members have performed their duty, both as touching voting and attending.

SCENE IN A MENAGERIE.—Last Saturday night one of the keepers in Wombwell's menagerie, exhibiting at Hertford, was set upon by a leopard and seriously injured. The man was in a den which contained five of these animals, and was in the act of putting them through their performance, when one of them, which was perched upon a bracket in the corner of the den, became rather awkward, and was pulled from the bracket by the keeper. No sooner was this done than the man was pounced upon by one of the other leopards from behind, and thrown to the floor of the den. Immediately all the five surrounded the prostrate keeper, lacerating his face frightfully and injuring his side. He managed, however, to regain his feet; and, having done so, at once belaboured the leopards with a short cudgel with such vigour as speedily to restore his authority. The animals then crouched submissively to the corners of the cage, when the wounded man took the earliest opportunity of leaving their society, and was placed under medical care. Although occupying only a few seconds, the scene produced intense consternation in the menagerie, which was crowded at the time.

RUSSIAN BALTIC TOWNS.

It, as some people fancy, the next enterprise on which Germany, in furtherance of the idea of completing her national unity, is likely to embark be the annexation of the Baltic Provinces of Russia the natives of which are of Teutonic origin, the towns of Finland and Estonia will probably come into still greater prominence even than they did during the Crimean War; and the fortifications of Revel and Swaborg (the citadel of Helsingfors) may yet be destined to play a part as signal as that which has now rendered Strasbourg and Metz famous. In view of the possible, but probably still remote, contingency hinted at above, the views of the two Russian ports which we this week lay before our readers will be interesting.

Revel, the capital of Estonia, and situated on a small bay in the Gulf of Finland, 200 miles south-west of St. Petersburg, is a strongly-fortified seaport town. The harbour is excellent, and well defended by batteries. The town is for the most part irregularly built. The town proper, which is inclosed by walls, is called the Domborg. Within the walls are two suburbs. The streets are narrow and dark. It contains a cathedral and several churches, a Government House, the residence of the Governor,

an admiralty a townhall; a gymnasium, founded by Gustavus Adolphus of Sweden; a theatre, a public library, a military academy, and several schools, hospitals, and charitable institutions. It is much frequented as a watering-place. Manufactures—cotton goods, leather, hosiery, pins and needles, earthenware, and gunpowder. The town also possesses a cannon-foundry, and a large trade in corn, hemp, flax, hides, and timber. Population, 28,000. Latitude, 59 deg. 25 min. N.; longitude 24 deg. 45 min. E. This town was founded by Valdemar II., King of Denmark, in 1218, and afterwards sold to the Teutonic Knights. In 1710 it was taken from Sweden by the Russians, who destroyed its roadstead in 1854, by sinking large blocks of stone to prevent the entrance of the Anglo-French fleet, whilst blockading the Russian ports in the Baltic during the same year. It was at one time the great emporium of the Hanseatic League for the trade with Novgorod.

Helsingfors, the seaport capital of Finland, stands on a peninsula in the gulf of that name, about 190 miles north-west of St. Petersburg. It has a good harbour, in which line-of-battle ships can lie, and it is defended by the almost impregnable citadel and fortifications of Swaborg, which stand on a number of rocky islands at the entrance of the harbour. The town is regularly built, and possesses a university, transferred from Abo

n 1827, a library of 80,000 volumes, also brought from Abo; a museum, observatory, state-house, churches, and botanical gardens. Manufactures—linen and linen; and a trade is carried on in corn and timber. Population, 21,638; lat. 60 deg. 14 min. N., long. 24 deg. 57 min. E. This town was founded by Gustavus I. of Sweden, and was burnt in 1741, during the war between Sweden and Russia. In 1855 Swaborg was bombarded for two days by the allied English and French fleets, when considerable damage was done to the interior defences of the place.

THE COMING CENSUS.

The machinery provided by the Legislature for taking the Census in England in 1871 is very elaborate, but it is of little interest as compared with the duties imposed upon the general body of householders. These we will endeavour briefly to explain.—On some day in the week ending Saturday, April 1, 1871, one or more schedules will be left at every dwelling-house in England. On Monday, April 3, an officer will call for the schedules. The occupier of the dwelling-house, or where the dwelling-house is let to different families in stories or apartments, then



REVEL, RUSSIAN PORT AND CITY IN THE BALTIC.

the returns under this section will be kept separate from the general returns; and if that is done the errors pointed out will be of no consequence. But the Act of Parliament seems to contemplate their incorporation in the general abstract. However, a similar section was inserted in the Act passed ten years ago, so that there can be no doubt but that the authorities have considered all such questions.—*Leuc Journal*.

THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE AND THE DRAMA.

THE twelfth part of the Imperial correspondence, now being published in Paris, is almost entirely devoted to the reports of the Commission charged with the censorship of works intended for the stage. This body, which has just been suppressed by the Ministry of Public Instruction, has contributed to the archives of the Ministry of Fine Arts a voluminous collection of documents, showing that the productions of the most eminent dramatists, such as Emile Augier, Victorien Sardou, Alexandre Dumas fils, and even Alfred de Musset, were not exempt from its control. It is worthy of note, too, that out of some twenty reports which are now made public, there is only one rejecting a piece on the ground of its immorality, and in this case the official visa appears to have been refused chiefly because the author had attacked the higher circles of French

society. In every other instance the pieces are rejected or recommended to be altered for political reasons, which are sometimes of the most childish character. The first report (adopting the order of publication) is dated as late as April 13 of the present year, and has reference to a request of the director of the Eldorado for permission to have the "Marseillaise" sung by the artists of his establishment. The Commission recommend its refusal in the interests, the report says, of liberty and order, and on the ground that the song has become a symbol of revolution—being in Paris the title of the most irreconcilable of journals, and in London the refrain to which the Republicans of every nation assemble and drink their toasts. The next document relates to the opera of "Le Capitaine Henriot," for which Sardou had written the libretto. The director of the Opéra Comique, where it was to be played, previous to incurring the expense of mounting it, had written to inquire if the censorship had any objection to Henri Quatre being represented on the stage. The Commission, considering that the Bonaparte dynasty had inherited the glories as well as the throne of the descendants of Saint Louis, decided in the negative. The manager of the Académie de Musique, however, does not seem to have been so fortunate as his confrère, an opera entitled "La Fronde" submitted by him having been altogether rejected because it introduced on the stage representations of tumults with cries of "Aux armes!" both of which were

considered as likely to disturb the public peace. "Paris," a drama, by M. Paul Meurice, is entirely altered under the direction of the censorship, in spite of the author's opposition. The report on this is curious—"We had requested that this piece should terminate previous to the Revolution, or that a final tableau should be devoted to Napoleon I. The director entered at once into our views, but found himself exposed to the opposition of the author. He has, however, disregarded this . . . and has introduced a final tableau representing Napoleon I. distributing eagles on the Champ de Mars." Among others, a comedy by a member of the present Government, M. Glais-Bizoin, incurs the disapprobation of the censorship. Some pieces, while receiving general approval, have to undergo certain modifications in their dialogue. Such, for instance, is the case with M. Emile Augier's "Diane," the Commission objecting to certain phrases—as, "Let us kill the Cardinal!" "His death is just, since it is necessary." Similar objections are made to the "Gâteau des Reines" of Léon Gozlan, who, after five different interviews with the Commission, finally assented, at the last moment, to the required alterations. The remaining documents published in this part are two letters to the Emperor—one from M. Rouher, the other from M. de Persigny. The former, writing on Sept. 27, 1867, reviews the state of affairs in France at that date, and, after advancing many arguments in support of his views, energetically advises his master to

revert to the policy of 1852. The latter, whose letter is the earlier of the two, complains of M. Rouher's conduct in the Chamber, and especially of a speech of his, in the Senate, against himself.

THE REV. HENRY MELVILL.

Among the most popular preachers of whom the Church can boast is the subject of our Engraving. The Rev. Henry Melvill, B.D., a younger son of the late Philip Melvill, Esq., some time Governor of Pendennis Castle, and brother of Sir Peter Melvill, K.C.B., and of the late Sir J. C. Melvill, K.C.B., was born about the year 1800, and educated at Christ's Hospital, whence he proceeded as a Grecian to St. John's College, Cambridge, graduated B.A. in 1821, and became a Fellow and tutor of St. Peter's College. Entering into orders, he was appointed, about the year 1830, to the incumbency of Camden Chapel, Camberwell, where he obtained the character of a most eloquent preacher. By the favour of the late Duke of Wellington he was appointed, in 1840, Chaplain to the Tower of London, and Incumbent of the church within its precincts, and he was subsequently elected to the Golden Lectureship at St. Margaret's, Lothbury, which he resigned in 1856, on becoming a Canon of St. Paul's. Mr. Melvill was also Principal of the East India College at Haileybury, Herts, for several years previous to its dissolution in 1859. He is the author of "Sermons Preached before the University of Cambridge," "Sermons Preached on Public Occasions," &c.

OUR FOREIGN CATTLE TRADE.

A warm controversy is just now raging amongst persons engaged in the cattle trade as to the most suitable site for the foreign cattle market, which must speedily be provided on the banks of the Thames. The question is as to the merits of the north shore against the south. While others were theorising, Mr. Jas. Odams, the well-known manure manufacturer, put into practice an experiment which he advocated in a pamphlet three years ago. Within a very short time of the appearance of the Order in Council requiring the slaughter of foreign cattle when landed, he built a market and a set of slaughter-houses, covering nine acres of land, on a vacant space adjoining his vitriol-works, near the Victoria Docks. The cessation of French exports has confined the experiment largely to German cattle, but the surprising

success of the entire scheme shows how great a necessity it was. The scene at this new Foreign Cattle Market is quite bewildering in its bustle and extent. Whole lanes of slaughter-houses, where the sickening blows of the poleaxe are heard on every side, endless rows of bullock and sheep carcasses, load after load of meat ready for the shop slab, heaps of offal, tons of provender, and thousands of live stock waiting patiently for their doom, in quick

cost of this enormous undertaking is probably best known to the enterprising gentleman who has made himself the pioneer of so important a branch of the cattle trade; but any casual visitor may witness the thriving business which has suddenly sprung up on a site which not many years ago was suburban pasture land; while any person who knows the difference between a beast slain as soon as it leaves the suffocating ship-hold and one

succession came under the notice of a party of inspection who visited the site at Plaistow on Saturday. The cattle wharf opens to the river immediately under the south end of the buildings, and the north is skirted by the Great Eastern Railway, communicating with every part of the country. There are at least five important advantages which are claimed to have followed the opening of this Foreign Cattle Market, where something like £40,000 changes hands every week. First, the certain prevention of imported disease; second (upon which great stress is laid), a retention of more meat for the labouring classes of the East-End; third, a preservation of the offal trade for manufacturing purposes in the port of London; fourth, the provision of improved slaughter-houses; and, fifth, the avoidance of the long-recognised nuisance of driving foreign cattle through crowded thoroughfares. Upon the merits of the north versus south we shall not touch; our only purpose being to announce the existence of this vast market, with its sheds, lairs, stores, drinking-troughs, feeding apparatuses, and everything else requisite for the landing, keeping, inspecting, selling, killing, and sending away of imported cattle. The market was opened on Sept. 24, and up to Saturday, notwithstanding obstacles of no ordinary description, 27,096 foreign animals have been passed by Mr. Symons, the Government inspector, and made ready for the retail butcher. Six hundred bullocks and 1200 sheep can be slaughtered every day, and ample shed-room exists for 2000 beasts and 3200 sheep, to say nothing of outer platforms, where 2000 extra oxen may stand if required. The sanitary arrangements are something more than the bare requirements of the Legislature, and the pains taken to prevent the spread of disease are extreme and incessant. During the operations of this market the only case of disease discovered has been one of smallpox. The wharf is so situated and fitted up that 1200 animals were, a day or two ago, landed in two hours. The



THE REV. HENRY MELVILL, CHAPLAIN TO HER MAJESTY AND CANON OF ST. PAUL'S.



STREET IN HELSINGFORS, IN THE BALTIC.

fed until sea-sickness and the effects of poisonous air have passed away, can appreciate the efforts which have been made to provide the London market with good meat, at a minimum cost, and with the least possible waste of time.

At a special meeting of the Court of Common Council, held on Monday, a report was presented from the markets committee on the subject of the erection of a foreign cattle market under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act of 1869. The committee recommended the purchase of the Deptford dockyard, which Mr. Austin, who bought it from the Government, was willing to sell for £91,500; and it was stated by the Controller of the Corporation that the Privy Council would approve of that site. The report, after an animated debate and several divisions on amendments, was ultimately adopted.

THE WAR.

CAPITULATION OF VERDUN.

VERDUN has capitulated. Four weeks ago its commander addressed a letter to the leader of the besieging forces announcing very extreme resolutions, and concluding with the challenge—"We shall meet in the breach." But the breach is precisely the place where in this war of sieges no German and French officers have yet met. The remark may be made without any disparagement to French courage. With their defences utterly broken down under the terrible fire of the Prussians, neither the garrisons of Toul, nor Strasbourg, nor Soissons could maintain the struggle, and their commanders wisely and rightly gave it up. It has been the same at Verdun. This historical fortress, the strongest on the Meuse, has been the object of much attention ever since the German armies crossed the Moselle. It was in the attempt to gain Verdun that the Army of the Rhine fought the great battles of Vionville and Gravelotte. The place was strong, and it contained large stores of provisions, which had been sent there from Paris as soon as Bazaine's retreat had been contemplated, apparently without a suspicion that if he condescended to retreat he might not be able to reach them. The French movements which preceded the battle of Sedan took place too far to the north to make Verdun serviceable to the French, but the Germans found it much in their way, and as soon as the debris of the battles on the Meuse had been cleared away, preparations for the capture of Verdun began. The place was invested on Sept. 25, at which time it had a garrison of 1500 men. Very little has been heard of the progress of the siege, which has ended as all sieges end where the garrison is not relieved by an army in the field. Verdun commands the road from Metz and Thionville to Châlons by St. Mihiel. It is ranked among the second-class fortresses of France, and was the head-quarters of a section of the fifth military division. Its fortifications consist of a citadel, which is separated from the town by an esplanade, and of an enceinte of ten bastioned fronts. It has a population of about 13,000 souls. The fortress, which was repaired by Vauban, belongs, like Toul and Metz, to the three Bishoprics—the annexation of which to France, in 1648, has been often the subject of reference during the war.

MOVEMENTS OF THE GERMAN ARMIES.

The latest telegrams from the theatre of war rather prepare us for events than record anything new. Save to a small extent, the army of Prince Frederick Charles, dispersed in three sections from the position it had so long held around Metz, has not yet reached the actual fields on which it will operate. The Fourth Division, forming half of the 2nd or Pomeranian Corps, detailed to reinforce the besieging army around Paris, had on the 3rd inst. arrived near Versailles; while the Third Division, forming the other half of the corps, was no further to the rear than Château-Thierry, about fifty miles from the capital. Meanwhile, Prince Frederick Charles himself, who leads into Central France three corps, numbering about 80,000 men, had arrived at Commercy; and his vanguards are, doubtless, already far advanced towards Troyes on the one hand, Chaumont and Châtillon on the other, by the great roads that lead south-westwards upon the Loire. On Monday the 9th Infantry Regiment had a successful encounter with a body of Mobile Guards at Brethenay, four or five miles north of Chaumont, the chief town of the department of the Higher Marne, and an important nucleus of railway communications. The affair does not seem to have been of any particular consequence in itself, even though the Germans, with the loss of only "two men wounded," say they contrived to kill, injure, and capture 110 Frenchmen. But it shows the progress already made by the heads of the German columns in the interval between Paris and Lyons, and hints the probability that war work will speedily await the French Armies of the Loire and of Lyons, between which the Red Prince is pushing his corps, as Von Werder seems to be pushing his between the Armies of Lyons and of the Vosges.

SIEGE OF PARIS.

There is nothing of importance from before Paris. The semi-official *Provincial Correspondence* of Berlin, referring to the artillery attack on Paris, has an article which is in some respects remarkable. Apparently, it has been framed to allay a certain degree of impatience which is manifesting itself in Germany at the delay in opening fire from the batteries upon Paris. But whereas it has formerly been announced that the attack would begin in so many days, or when such and such well-defined contingencies had been realised, it is now said that it will begin at the moment which shall appear most opportune upon a view of all the circumstances, "especially the internal development of affairs in Paris." This statement presents the problem to be solved at Versailles as exceedingly complicated. Opinions differ greatly as to the effect to be expected of an attack. One opinion, according to correspondents at the German head-quarters, is that the dropping of some shells into Paris will calm men's minds and induce them to surrender. This is said to be the view of several recently-arrived Americans. The second is, that the same process will act upon the people like a stimulant, and goad them to a tremendous struggle. This is the view of several outside Frenchmen. The third is, that the projection of missiles will divide Paris into two hostile camps—one desirous of saving life and property by making terms; the other resolved on the *guerre à outrance*, of breaches, forlorn hopes, picarats of potash, mines, and barricades. In connection with the combat of the 30th ult., at Bourget, a very unfortunate incident is said to have occurred. The Prussians declare that a French regiment, during the fight, waved white handkerchiefs and raised the butts of their rifles in the air in sign of surrender. Count von Waldersee, Colonel of the Queen Augusta's regiment of Guards, thereupon stopped the firing and rode forward. As soon as he approached he was shot dead, and his Adjutant, who came to his assistance, was badly wounded, as well as another officer in the rear of him. This is the story as told by the Prussians, and firmly believed at Prussian head-quarters. We must remember, however, that in war these sorts of accusations are frequently bandied about, and that the French, some six weeks ago, accused the Prussians of having committed exactly the same act of treachery. We should, in the interests of the French army, be glad to see an official contradiction of the story.

AFFAIRS AT DIJON.

The *Journal de Saône et Loire* gives an account of a very curious convention which Prince William of Baden has made with M. F. A. Dubois, Mayor of Dijon, and his adjoints. As a beginning, the town of Dijon pays down to the Germans £20,000 caution-money, to be returned to it if, at the end of the occupation, it shall be found that the invaders and the town have got on pretty well together. The town is to provide food and lodging for 20,000 soldiers. On his part, the German commander engages not to make any requisitions, except by arrangement between the commissariat and the municipality, and to respect private property. The townspeople taken prisoners in the previous engagements have been set at liberty. The National Guard have deposited their arms at the Hôtel de Ville; these arms remain the

property of the town, but must not be touched without the permission of the German commander. The public services, posts, telegraphs, &c., are to go on as usual, and justice is to be administered in the name of the Republic. The latest advice left the German troops camped upon the heights above Dijon, the town being but little visited.

MISCELLANEOUS WAR NEWS.

From Tours we have an account of an engagement in which the French Army of the Loire is said to have repulsed a German force near Vallière, and to have made sixty-four prisoners. The Germans left their dead and wounded behind them, but in what number is not stated. The French loss was four killed and thirty-one wounded. A non-official telegram from Tours, of Thursday's date, says:—"Orléans has been retaken, after heavy fighting. The Prussians have lost 500 killed and wounded."

A great deal of fighting is going on between General Triskow's division and the Francs-Tireurs dispersed over the southern part of Alsace. All the engagements are upon a small scale, and end in the repulse of the French, who, however, disappear from one point to appear at another. Petit Magny, from which an engagement with Mobiles is reported, and Rougemont are in the department of the Haut Rhin.

From the head-quarters of Versailles we learn that the Francs-Tireurs have been several times repulsed between Colmar and Belfort, and that the latter town has been invested and communication established with General Werder.

The Germans before New Breisach have taken Fort Mottier, with its five guns and garrison of 220 men. This work is not a part of the fortress of New Breisach, but stands about a mile from the town, before the Strasbourg gate. The besiegers have now to take New Breisach itself. The place is constructed on the plan which Vauban almost uniformly followed in erecting his small fortresses. It is in the form of a regular octagon, the enceinte of which is pierced with four gates. It has barracks and a tolerably spacious arsenal. Louis XIV., having been obliged to cede Old Breisach to Austria by the Treaty of Ryswick, built the new fortress, two years afterwards, on the left bank of the Rhine.

In the Valley of the Doubs the Germans are still pressing their enemy towards and against the Swiss frontier. A despatch from Bern states that they, on Wednesday, entered Montbéliard, which they have occupied and placed in a state of defence, in order to secure the investment of Belfort.

Preparations for a siege continue to be made in Lyons. A barricade committee has been formed. A large number of Remington rifles have arrived, and cattle and sheep are being collected. Some attempts which have been made by the Red Republicans to create disturbances have failed.

The *Liberté* of the 2nd inst. reported the following as the strength of the six French armies outside Paris:—

The Army of the Vosges, under the command of General Cambriels	35,000
The Army of Besançon, name of commander unknown ..	30,000
The Army of the West, under the orders of Count de Keratry	90,000
The Army of the North, under General Bourbaki	40,000
The Army of the Centre, at present at Mer, in front of Blois, under the orders of General Tripart	90,000
The Army of the Loire, under General d'Aurelle de Paladine ..	80,000
Total	425,000

According to *Voss's Gazette*, the German soldiers now in France and fit for service number 690,000, while there are 160,000 horses. The daily requirements of these forces are 250,000 loaves of bread, 185 oxen, 490 cwt. of bacon, 540 cwt. of rice, 160,000 quarts of brandy, and 40 cwt. of coffee, 68,000 cwt. of hay, and large quantities of oats and straw.

An order of the Governor-General of Lorraine has been issued which directs that the Mayors must draw up lists of all those persons who, according to French laws, are liable to military service, as well as all men under forty-six years of age. Should an individual whose name shall be entered in such lists leave, either secretly or without any reason, his parents, guardians, or family shall pay 50f. for every day he may be absent.

PROCLAMATION BY GARIBALDI.

Garibaldi has addressed a proclamation to the army of the Vosges, and includes in it an appeal to the nations of the world. The General says:—

Militia of the Army of the Vosges!—The cosmopolitan nucleus that the French Republic is rallying in her midst, composed of men chosen in the elite of nations, represents humanitarian future, and upon the banner of this noble group you can read the motto of a free people, which will soon be the word of order of the human family—"All for one, one for all." Selfishness governs the world, and autocracy combats certainly in the French Republic the germ of the rights of man, which it abhors. Genes of evil, it makes every effort for its preservation. And the people, Modern Republics, like ancient Carthage, swim in gold and sybaritism, while despots shake hands amid the darkness they enjoy, and profit by the misfortune of a brother people. Helvetia, believing herself weak, holds down her head, and covers with the holy tag of William Tell her money-chests and her banks. Grant, who by a single sign of his finger could have dispatched the soldiers of Prim home to Madrid, permits peaceably an entire population belonging to the grand family of Washington to be massacred and to be destroyed, and barely allows the great Republic to utter a word of sympathy for the valiant sons of Lafayette. And thou, proud and classic ground, refuge of the exile—thou who hast first proclaimed the emancipation of races, and who to-day enjoyest the triumph of thy courageous initiative—wilt thou leave alone in its gigantic struggle that sister nation which, like thee, marches, and will march, in the van of human progress? In the heroic struggle which France is sustaining there can only be found the debris of an army of brave men, which the most stupid of tyrants conducted to defeat. But the nation is there. Risen like one man, she will cause the old autocrat soon to repent of his determination to continue his butchery of men. What a noble mission, therefore, is ours! Sons of Liberty, elite of all people. Oh, no! I would not change my title of Militiaman of the Republic for a Crown. Apostles of peace and of the fraternity of peoples, we are compelled to fight; and we shall fight with the proud consciousness of justice, while consecrating the formula of the illustrious Chénier:—

"Republicans are men, and slaves are children."

Your courage I do not doubt. All I ask of you is coolness and discipline—indispensable in war.

Garibaldi has since made a stimulating speech to his followers. He says that they are fighting for the honour of Italy and for the universal Republic. His most important announcement, however, is that the corps is to advance. If he is really in a position to move, General Beyer presents the left flank of his column invitingly to him. In any case, we must look for an engagement between the old chief and the Germans before the latter advance much below Nuits, on the road to Lyons. The latest report from Garibaldi is to the effect that he has quarrelled with the Francs-Tireurs under his command.

THE SURRENDER OF METZ.

MARSHAL BAZAINE has written a letter to the *Nord*, of Brussels, bearing date the 2nd inst. He says:—

I have read your political bulletin of Oct. 1, in which you refer to M. Gambetta's proclamation. You are right: the army of the Rhine would not have obeyed a traitor. The only answer I shall make to this lying insinuation is to send you the order of the day (already published) which was addressed to the army after the councils of war held on Oct. 26 and 28. M. Gambetta does not seem to be aware of what he is saying, or of the position in which the army at Metz was placed when he stigmatises as he does its chief, who struggled for three months against forces double those at his disposal, and whose effective strength was always kept up. I received no communications from the Government at Tours, notwithstanding the efforts made to place ourselves in relation.

The army of Metz had one Marshal, twenty-four Generals, 2140 officers, and 42,350 men struck by the enemy's fire, and it made itself respected in every fight in which it engaged. Such an army could not be composed of traitors and cowards. Famine and disorganisation alone caused the arms to fall from the hands of the 65,000 real combatants who remained. The artillery and cavalry were without horses, it having been necessary to kill them to alleviate the privations of the army. Had the latter not displayed such energy and patriotism it would have had to succumb in the first fortnight of October, when the rations were already reduced to 800 grammes,

and later on to 250 grammes of bad bread. Add to this dark picture the fact of there being 20,000 sick and wounded, with their medicines on the point of failing, and themselves suffering from the effects of the torrential rains.

France has always been deceived as to our position. I know not why, but the truth will one day prevail. We are conscious of having done our duty.

General Coffinières, late Commandant of Metz, has also written a letter to a Belgian paper to vindicate his part in the surrender of that fortress. His language favours the belief that Bazaine allowed political considerations to influence his military movements; but the General admits that the capitulation was resolved on by a council of war. General Coffinières repeats that he was always of opinion that the fortress of Metz had interests distinct from the army outside the walls. But what if Prince Frederick Charles would not accept the surrender of the army without that of the fortress? Could the Commandant of Metz close the stores of the fortress against that army, and leave it to starve under its walls?

On this subject the *Daily News* correspondent at Metz writes:—

As a proof that the troops need not have been at starvation point, the forts were full of provisions. Of this latter fact there can be no doubt. I have myself inspected the provision stores in Fort St. Quentin, and found them capable of maintaining a garrison adequate for the defence of the fort for months at least. But I don't see that any deduction is to be drawn from this that Bazaine has played false to his trust. His policy is explicable enough, viewed in a military light. His one evidently from the first has been to keep the fortress so as to be able to maintain its resistance. He has made effort after effort to get his army out, and his penultimate proffer to Prince Frederick Charles was to surrender the army and allow the fortress to stand. When this was rejected, *cui bono* was it to deplete the forts to enable the army to hold out longer to no purpose? Thus far on military grounds no one can blame him; but that he has let men starve while he had food anywhere that he could give them constitutes a very grave moral responsibility.

The Times' correspondent says:—

I was positively informed by the man in whose father's house Lebouf lived during the siege that he had a dairy and a poultry-yard to the very end, and that he, Bazaine, and the superior officers lived in luxury to the last. They paid exorbitant prices for the delicacies of the table, but always succeeded in procuring them; and I was indignantly assured by a veracious citizen that only a week before the capitulation a friend of his had sold Bazaine a *pâté de foie gras* for 500f. The total amount spent by the army in the city was estimated at one hundred and twenty millions of francs. The debauchery and extravagance of the officers were much dwelt upon by the townspeople, who, though not more particularly straddled in certain respects than French people are generally, were utterly scandalised by the flagrant immorality of their defenders, who seem to have preferred cafés and the society of the demi-monde to duty in the trenches, and who to the last denied themselves no enjoyment or luxury which money could purchase or the town afford. This demoralisation was by no means confined to the higher ranks. Doubtless it began there; but the taint soon extended beyond the Marshals, and the vices which had become fashionable in the Court were soon imitated in the camp. It is possible that Bazaine may be the traitor he is accused of being; but it seems to me more likely that he and all his officers, as soon as they began to run short of utilities, and found that their female friends got bored with the monotony of the siege, determined to bring it to a close. It is impossible to suppose that the army could not have cut its way out had it been in earnest.

MUSIC.

WEBER'S "Oberon" was produced, on Saturday last, for the first time in a theatre which stands on the very spot where the opera was first heard, forty-three years ago. How Mr. Edmund Kean, the then manager of Covent Garden, gave a commission to the popular German maestro; how Weber set Planck's libretto to music with considerable misgiving as to its value; and how he conducted the performance in person only a month before his death—are matters well known to every reader of musical history. Not less well known is the fact that "Oberon," though received at first with enthusiasm, gradually fell into disuse, portions of its charming music being now and then heard in the concert-room as a sole reminder of its existence. Not even the Royal Italian Opera—for twenty-three years the inheritor of Covent Garden traditions—accorded the work the slight notice of a single performance; and there is little doubt that, but for Mr. Mapleson's brief tenancy, "Oberon" would long have remained a stranger to the place where it has the greatest right to be heard. This neglect, however, is not wholly without excuse. The opera, in an Italian form, is tedious, owing to the recitatives, which not even Mr. Benedict—Weber's favourite pupil—could make interesting. The story itself is one which excites not the smallest sympathy; and the opera requires for its production very considerable resources. Hence we can hardly wonder at the rare opportunities of hearing "Oberon," however much we may regret the fact on account of its many beauties. The performance of Saturday was exceedingly creditable, all circumstances taken into account, and gave satisfaction to a large audience, who were never tired of applauding and encoring Weber's favourite *morceaux*. Mlle. Titiens, as Reiza, made her usual great effect in "Ocean, thou mighty monster." Madame Trebelli-Bettini (Fatima) was called upon to repeat both her charming songs, "A lonely Arab maid" and "Araby, dear Araby," a compliment due as much to the artist as to the compositions; and Mlle. Scalcini sang the music, if she did not embody the character, of Puck in a style open to little adverse criticism. Signor Fancelli (Sir Huon) had hardly sufficient stamina for "Oh! 'tis a glorious sight to see;" but elsewhere he did justice to his part, and very nearly won an encore for "Ruler of this awful hour." Signor Bettini's Oberon was a careful, though not a startling, performance; and Scerastini found a tolerable representative in Signor Cotogni. The conductor, Signor Arditi, did his work in first-rate style. Of course, the brilliant overture was twice played.

"Don Giovanni," the opera of Monday last, attracted a full house, many being curious, perhaps, to note how Signor Cotogni would acquit himself in the part of the licentious hero. The result went to prove the blessedness of him who, in matters operatic, expecteth little. Signor Cotogni has, evidently, no well-defined notion as to how the Don should be played, and, by necessary consequence, made the part exceedingly tame and colourless. His Giovanni was a commonplace scoundrel, with nothing about him able to explain the "successes" of which Leporello made such boast. Even in rendering the music, Signor Cotogni was not wholly successful, much of it being sung indifferently. Some such failure as this the connoisseurs present must have looked for, seeing that only now and then a favoured genius is able to illustrate the fortunes of the Spanish rake with impunity. All the other parts were filled in a manner so familiar that comment upon them is needless. Mlle. Titiens as Donna Anna, Madame Sinico as Donna Elvira, Madame Trebelli as Zerlina, Signor Bettini as Don Ottavio, Signor Ciampi as Leporello, Signor Tagliacoco as Massetto, and Signor Foli as the Commendatore, are among the best-known features of the operatic world, so that it will suffice to record the average success of each. The orchestra fell below its usual mark, and the overture has rarely been played so indifferently.

"Il Barbiere" was given on Tuesday, with Mlle. Leon-Duval, a young lady from the Paris Opéra Comique, as Rosina. The new comer has a mezzo-soprano voice of fair quality, which she uses with considerable skill. She possesses a good stage presence, moreover, and acts with ease and vivacity. It was not surprising that Mlle. Duval made an encouraging début and won the favour of the audience. Her greatest success was obtained in a vase introduced into the lesson scene, which she was vociferously called on to repeat. Signor Gardoni, whose voice is nearly extinct, looked well as Count Almaviva; and Signor Cotogni was a Barber of uncommon vivacity and power of lungs. We need not repeat what has so frequently been said of Signor Ciampi's Don Bartolo. Enough that its fun was such as might be expected where there is not obviously a sense of humour. Signor Tagliacoco was an entertaining Don Basilio, and Bertha had an efficient representative in Mlle. Bauermeister.

AT A DARK SEANCE.

Among recent fluctuations of the market there is one for which we were certainly not prepared—viz., "spirits" are "looking up." About this time last year an article appeared in the columns of the *Daily Telegraph* entitled "A Shilling Séance," in which the writer detailed his experiences in visiting a "trance-medium," one Mr. Morse, at the Progressive Library, in Southampton-row, Holborn. The spirit "season" having again commenced, Mr. Burns once more advertises the Progressive Library as the rendezvous for the material and spiritual worlds. Now, however, the séances have the additional attractions of being "dark" ones, and the price is doubled—somewhat unnecessarily so, we fancied, since there must be considerable saving in the way of gas and fire by the present arrangement. But no doubt, in this as in all other cases, demand regulates price, and spirits as well as mortals are at liberty to ask as much for their performances as they find people will pay.

Entering that exceedingly go-a-head establishment on Monday evening, we found Mr. Burns at the receipt of custom, and florins dropping liberally in. Two individuals had preceded us, and Mr. Burns was engaged in urging them with some earnestness not to invest their money without clearly understanding that he could not guarantee results. "You may sit the whole evening without a table moving," he said, "or, on the other hand, you may get great results." This was fair enough; and, after some hesitation, the strangers paid the requisite florin, mounted to the first floor front along with us, and left the common world behind them. Some fourteen or fifteen people, of all ages and both sexes, were already shivering in the drawing-room, for the fires as well as gas have to be extinguished in order to procure the rayless darkness essential to spirit manifestations. We looked like a party of conspirators gathering, by the dim light of one gas-burner, over the large table; and most of us beguiled the time in examining the arrangements of the spiritual arena. The windows were closely blocked with American cloth, which had the effect of deadening sound as well as excluding light. In fact, we felt in a very Hades, and the new comers betrayed no little nervousness at the strange position in which they found themselves placed. On the arrival of the medium—a curly-headed, bull-necked young man, and the lady who had "developed" him, and acted as presiding genius at his séances—we took our seats round an oval table, extinguished the lights, and waited for results. We had not long to exercise our patience. The circle was declared to be a harmonious one, and the more clairvoyant of its constituents began to see "spirit-lights," occasionally of a red colour, which, we were told, indicated "strength." We ordinary mortals saw nothing of this; but were first made aware of spiritual presence by insane gyrations of the table, which finally tilted over, and, in obedience to the ordinary laws of gravitation, and without regard to the toes of the semicircle, came down with a bump. This had to be righted, and a brown-paper tube that had been lying upon it, through which the spirits speak, had to be groped after in the darkness, as we were informed the spirits will never take anything off the floor. All being set square, or rather all having formed a circle again, we were regaled with the sound of the "spirit-voice." The tube was taken from the table, and appeared to be floating about over our heads, whilst muffled sounds of a man's voice, talking in a very affected way, was heard to proceed from it. The effect was curious enough. At one time the sound seemed close to one's ear; at another on the opposite side of the table; and then, again, quite up in the ceiling. The initiated recognised the voice as being that of "Hal," and we were astounded to find ourselves in the reputed presence of "Bluff King Hal," England's Henry VIII. himself. On learning this fact, one of the strangers displayed considerable anxiety as to the deceased Monarch's present condition, but was told by the voice to "shut up." The subject was, in fact, a delicate one; and, on being unduly pressed, the voice followed its own advice, and "shut up," the initiated declaring that his Majesty had gone. This produced some little altercation, and there were suggestions that the refractory gentlemen should take their money back and go. They were, however, easily persuaded to remain in a passive condition, declaring they were only anxious to investigate; and so peace was finally restored. After some little delay a sensation was produced by the well-known accents of "John King," the familiar of the Marshalls, being heard. On being questioned as to how he came to pay a visit, he replied that Mary (meaning thereby Mrs. Marshall) had given him leave to come. John King, it appears, is always given to using his speaking-trumpet as a truncheon when he desires to be particularly emphatic. The refractory strangers were pushing some questions on the subject of Paris, and somewhat closely home, John King appearing well posted up in the daily telegrams, and ready enough to answer vaguely as to the future, but declining any query that could possibly resolve itself into a test. Hereupon one of the strangers somewhat angrily observed that John, being a spirit, ought to know more than he in the flesh. This John regarded as a *cassus belli*, and dropped his speaking-trumpet sharply on the head—alas!—of the wrong man; not the catechist, but his friend! This second stranger waxed very wroth indeed at the idea of being "hit for what another man had said," and nothing could possibly be imagined more ludicrous than the idea of two people, in blank darkness, bawling words with a spirit on the subject of an undesired blow on the head, whilst the initiated as warmly defended him. During the fracas John came over to our side of the house and addressed me individually with the words, "Well, Mr.—, how about the *Daily Telegraph*?—though I had carefully avoided hinting at any intention of reporting the proceedings. Finally, John declared his leave had expired; and a spirit with a husky voice, which sounded as though the fog had got down his throat, succeeded. There was not much to be got out of this party, but his presence seemed to cause considerable distress to the medium, who was, indeed, very nervous during the whole of the proceedings, and had to be continually addressed by the lady who presided as "You foolish boy, be quiet!" The last of the spiritual levée was a Jewish gentleman, who favoured us with a few words in the

conventional accent, slightly overdone. "Bluff King Hal" also looked in again, as it seemed, *en passant*, and then nothing would induce further manifestations. It is, indeed, a peculiar feature of these séances, and one which no doubt involves some law of spirit-nature not as yet fully realised—viz., the punctuality with which the spiritual beings make their exit square with the time for closing the Progressive Library.

A "dark séance" is certainly not satisfactory. It is difficult to assign limits to what might be done, given perfect darkness and utter silence. Add a previous conviction on the part of the majority of the circle, not only as to the reality, but as to the spiritual nature of the communications, and it is scarcely to be wondered at that persons deceive themselves or are deceived. We are not saying that the one solution or the other satisfactorily accounts for all that took place at Mr. Burns's. There were one or two instances of what looked remarkably like thought-reading, and which would require considerable adaptation to reduce them within the limits of clever guessing or coincidence. After leaving a very wide margin for collusion or delusion in these matters, there is much that remains unexplained. That we for one moment realised the idea of talking with spirits, still less that we ventured to identify the

Soft rebukes in blessings ended,
Breathing from those lips of air,

will scarcely be suspected. Taking the matter on the lowest ground of clever ventriloquism and shrewd thought-reading, plus something that will persistently refuse to be explained by either of these solutions, the seeker after a novel sensation may do worse than invest a florin at the Progressive Library on a Monday evening. If the truth is to be discovered, it can only be by thorough ventilation; and the spiritualists have been up to this time somewhat shy of admitting outsiders to their dark séances. They now, however, throw open their doors to everyone who comes provided with the moderate passport of two shillings. We strongly recommend any persons who so present themselves to refrain from expressing any adverse opinion at the outset. Let them hear all they can (they can see nothing) and then pronounce themselves. It is unfortunate that visitors generally go with a decided prejudice, pro or con, and commence by announcing such prejudice. Let the investigator be content to do what is really all the spiritualists ask—sit it out in silence—and if there be a trick involved, surely there are clever people in London to find it out. To announce an intention of doing so, however, is to put the practitioners on the qui vive, and so unintentionally aid the proceedings.—*Telegraph*.

A VISIT TO GRAVELLOTTE.—A recent visitor to Gravelotte writes:—"It is a scene of indescribable desolation. The heights occupied by the French are still strewn with accoutrements and clothes; the fields are deeply rutted with the wheels of artillery and dotted all over with little mounds where the dead are buried, and the whole is a perfect quagmire of mud. One had only to see the ground from which the Germans drove the French to understand that troops which could not hold such a position could never cut their way out of Metz. The fact is, that the German soldiers are much more than a match for the French, both in personal physique and in discipline, and vastly superior in education. Dishonesty and debauchery are ruining the one country, while the salt of Christianity among the other race is preserving it from decay."

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, NOV. 4.

BANKRUPTS.—J. CUSACK, Manor-rise, Brixton, shoe-maker—W. S. HOLLAND, Richmond-terrace, Clapham-road, architect—J. BUCK, Leeds, tobacconist—J. P. DOUSE and G. P. WHITEWORTH, Huddersfield, stockbrokers—T. ELICE, Borsal, cotton-spinner—W. GANT, Horncastle, tailor—J. JONES, Liverpool, draper—T. OLDHAM, King's Lynn—A. SCHOLES, Woolwich—D. C. and C. S. SIMPSON, Liverpool, merchants—C. J. WHITELEY, Farnham, plumber—T. J. WEST, Liverpool, ironmonger—J. HAMILTON, Liverpool, stationer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—W. LAIDLAW, Saline, Fife, innkeeper—J. BARDLEY, Glasgow, brush manufacturer—J. HODGE, Penryn, innkeeper—J. ROBB, Paisley, coal merchant—W. TAYLOR, Forth, Ayr, cattle-salesman—FORSYTH and ROBERTS, Bathgate, engineers—MORTON, WYLD, and CO., Dumbarton, shipbuilders—A. CAMERON, Glasgow, Sutherlandshire.

TUESDAY, NOV. 8.

BANKRUPTS.—L. E. WELDEN, Cannon-street, City, general merchant—A. R. and A. HUGHES and C. D. JONES, Liverpool, cotton-brokers—T. JONES, jun., Neath, grocer—F. SMITH, Aberdare, boot and shoe dealer—G. STEER, Guildford, grocer—T. TILSTON, Liverpool, grocer—J. TOMKINSON, Manchester, B. HODGKIN, Head, timber merchant and farmer—W. S. WILSON, Shiffield, draper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—D. MACKENZIE, Inverness, shoemaker—W. TEMPLETON, Glenluce, joiner—W. THOMSON, W. Calder, Brechin—J. MARK, Glasgow, manufacturer—W. URQUHART, Inverness, grocer.

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